

## Government support falls by 5%

Public support for the Government dropped over the past week, with 38 per cent of respondents in a Mori opinion poll for *The Economist* saying they would vote Conservative at a general election, as against 42 per cent last week. The poll taken on Tuesday and Wednesday after the sinking of the General Belgrano and as the news of the HMS Sheffield's destruction became known, showed support for the Liberal/SDP Alliance at 29 per cent and Labour support at 32 per cent.

## World Cup boycott call

Scotland's football players' union have called for a World Cup boycott because of the participation of Argentina. English players have rejected the idea as being "premature". Page 19

## Filibuster risk to Ulster Bill

Senior ministers seem to accept the possibility that the Government's Northern Ireland Bill might be filibustered into the ground by hardline Commons opponents when it goes into its committee stage on the floor of the House. Page 3

## Reagan clears budget hurdle

President Reagan cleared the first important hurdle in his second drive to achieve a budget compromise by mobilizing Senate Republicans behind a new 1983 federal spending package approved by the budget committee. Page 6

## A-plant setback

Construction of the Bilbao nuclear power plant has been halted against when employees walked off the site after the killing of the chief engineer by ETA. Page 7

## £3m Labour plea

Unions will be asked to contribute £3m to the Labour Party for the next general election and also to help to reduce the party's overdraft. Page 2

## Street 'ambush'

The police are treating seriously reports that private contractors were ambushed and attacked while collecting rubbish during a dustmen's strike in Wandsworth, south London. Page 3

## Document order

Lord Cockfield, Minister of State at the Treasury, has been ordered by a High Court judge in London to hand over government papers on British airport landing charges. Page 3

## Monopoly trial

Thomson Newspapers and Southern Inc, Canada's largest newspaper chain, are to stand trial on monopoly charges arising from the closure of the *Ottawa Journal* and the *Winnipeg Tribune*. Page 6

## Poll results

Full details of yesterday's local government election results will appear in *The Times* tomorrow together with an analysis by Mr Ivor Crewe, project director of British Election Studies at the University of Essex.

## 'French' Proms

This year's Proms season, opening on July 16, has a distinct French theme to its 57 concerts. The programme is up, but a BBC-British Rail scheme offers substantial saving on fares for concertgoers. Pages 12 and 13.

## Preview

On Sunday, 18,000 runners will set off from Greenwich Park to Westminster Bridge. The London Marathon was established last year as one of the capital's great sporting occasions, and today's Preview, the 16-page arts and entertainment guide published each Friday with *The Times*, contains a detailed map of the course.

Leader page, 11  
Letters: On the Falklands, from Mr Peter Vis, and others; circus animals, from Mr A. C. W. Hart.  
Leading articles: The Falklands; Italy; International Monetary Fund.  
Features, page 10  
Why Mrs Thatcher must bend little on the Falklands, by David Watt; the Pope, Catholics and contraception; fueling the petrol lead debate.  
Obituary, page 12  
Sir Ian Hill, Mr Geoffrey Roberts.

Home News	2-3	Letters	11
O'Seas News	6-8	Laurie cartoon	8
Appointments	12	Motoring	21
Arts	13	Obituary	21
Business	15	Parliament	14
Church	12	Sale Room	12
Court	12	Sport	19-21
Crossword	24	Theatre and Radio	23
Diary	24	Theatre, etc	23
Events	24	Weather	24
Features	10	Wills	12
Law Report	8		

# Two more Harriers reported lost in Falklands zone

Two of the British task force's Sea Harrier fighter-bombers were lost yesterday in the Falkland exclusion zone and their pilots missing, presumed dead. There were rumours of an "accident" on the aircraft carrier *Hermes*, while the Ministry of Defence refused to discuss any further task force casualties.

● Peru's ceasefire plan, which won Britain's provisional agreement, collapsed when Argentina refused to consider any withdrawal of its troops from the Falklands.

● United Nations peace efforts were still meeting obstacles, and there was growing concern in the American State Department that the crisis will badly damage Washington's long-term interests in Latin America.

● The Ministry of Defence said 20 officers and men are presumed dead and 24 injured in the HMS Sheffield disaster.

## Sheffield toll put at 20

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Two Sea Harrier aircraft from the British task force were reported to have been lost inside the Falkland exclusion zone last night. The report came shortly after the Ministry of Defence had refused to discuss any further casualties, operational or accidental, involving the task force.

There had been persistent rumours in London, Washington and Buenos Aires about an "accident" on HMS *Hermes*, one of the two task force carriers, which is serving as flagship for Rear-Admiral John Woodward.

The ministry spokesman, Mr Ian McDonald, said at a briefing last night that there had been further operations reported in the South Atlantic. He refused, significantly, to answer several questions about an "accident" on *Hermes* however, confirming only that the ship was still in action.

The two pilots of the Harriers were said last night to be missing, presumed dead, and their next of kin had been informed.

The loss of two aircraft brings down the total number with the task force from 20 to 17. The reports, however, still assisted official confirmation last night.

Twenty officers and men are "presumed dead" after the disaster in the South Atlantic on Tuesday when the destroyer HMS *Sheffield* was struck by an Argentine missile and caught fire.

A further 24 sustained injuries and are receiving medical treatment. Only one of these is on the list of "seriously ill", the Ministry of Defence announced last night. The other 242 members of the crew are all well, according to Mr Ian McDonald, the ministry spokesman, and have been transferred to other ships in the task force. All next of kin have been informed.

The spokesman appealed to the news media to "respect the grief and privacy of all the families involved".

### FALKLANDS ROUNDUP

Nott insists Nato and EEC behind UK Dispatch from HMS Invincible  
Pessimism among allies worries Whitehall  
Argentina has more casualties than Britain  
Why Mrs Thatcher must bend a little

Mr Macdonald made it clear that there had been no reports of further action involving the task force. Patrols to enforce the total exclusion zone around the Falkland Islands were continuing.

Mr Macdonald pointedly refused to answer questions about an "accident" involving HMS *Hermes*, the task force's flagship.

The *Hermes*, he said, was still in action. "But I am not able to go into details of whether or not there has been an accident."

He was also questioned about the failure of HMS *Sheffield's* advanced radar and air defence missiles to protect it from the Exocet. It was generally recognized that such missiles were among the most difficult to counter. Plans were in hand to improve the Sea Wolf anti-missile missile, which is now fitted to only two of the warships known to be with the task force.

Mr John Nott, the Defence Secretary, said that he was giving high priority to Sea Wolf in the defence programme.

The casualty list: Deceased: Petty Officer (Marine Engineering, Mechanical), David Briggs, aged 25, of Lee-on-Solent. Presumed dead: Lieutenant Commander John Woodhead, 40, of Stubbington; Lieutenant Commander David Bulfour, 37, of Hindhead; Sub-Lieutenant Richard Emly, 36, of Havant; Master at Arms Brian Welsh, 34, of Gaze-

head, Tyne and Wear. Petty Officer Cook Robert Fagan, 34, of Stubbington; Acting Chief Weapons Engineering Mechanic Michael Till, 35, of Stubbington; Weapons Electrician Kevin Sullivan, 35, of Gosport; Hamshire; Weapons Engineering Mechanic 2, Barry Wallis, 20, of Portchester; Cook Neil Goodall, 20, of Enfield; Leading Cook Tony Marshall, 31, of Gosport; Cook Andrew Swallow, 18, of Bemburgh, Isle of Wight; Weapons Electrical Artificer 1 Anthony Eglington, 35, of Furbrook, Hants; Petty Officer Weapons Engineering Mechanic (Radio) Anthony Norman, 25, of Gosport; Leading Marine Engineering Mechanic (Mechanics) Allan Knowles, 31, of Gosport; Cook David Osborn, 26, of Portsmouth; Leading Cook Adrian Wellstead, 26, of Portsmouth; Catering Assistant Darryl Cope, 21, of Stourport; Lai Chi Keung, 31, of Hongkong; Cook Kevin Williams, 20, of Gosport.

An angry argument emerged last night between editors and the Government over press and broadcast coverage of the Falklands action. Mrs Thatcher complained in the Commons that she had heard from people who watched and listened more than she did that the Argentine and British forces were "almost being treated as equals".

The Prime Minister claimed that "many people" were concerned that the case for British troops was not being put over fully and effectively.

She emerged in Whitehall that Mr Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, and senior officers had many complaints over what they saw as the surfeit of armchair strategists in broadcast and press coverage.

Parliamentary report, page 4



Mrs Thatcher leaves 10 Downing St for the now daily debate on the Falklands crisis in the Commons.

## Britain seen in US as on defensive

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, May 6

Britain has been put on the defensive, both militarily and diplomatically, as a result of the sinking of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano and the destruction of HMS *Sheffield*.

The huge loss of life involved in the Belgrano incident has caused a substantial erosion of international sympathy, particularly in Europe, for Britain's position in the dispute. The missile attack on HMS *Sheffield* has revealed how vulnerable other ships in the task force could be to similar attacks.

The Sheffield incident also has dispelled the widely held view here that the Argentines would be either unwilling or unable to put up effective resistance to the British if fighting started.

Mrs Thatcher must now make some tough and painful choices, one source commented. Either she could go for an all-out military victory, which would be terribly bloody and would cause the further loss of world sympathy, or she could seek a diplomatic solution. However, the Argentines, having bloodied the British nose, seem in no mood to compromise on their insistence that Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands should be assured.

There are already indications that Britain, in its search for a compromise, is prepared to soften its position about the need for the 1,800 islanders to be able to determine their own future.

Last week British spokesmen were insisting that the wishes of the islanders should be "paramount". Now, however, they are simply saying that a solution should include "a mechanism for the islanders to express their will and for their wishes to be respected."

Argentina has already taken the diplomatic initiative by being the first to announce broad acceptance of the peace proposal put forward by Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General.

view, has been brought about by the sinking of the General Belgrano and the destruction of HMS *Sheffield*.

The huge loss of life involved in the Belgrano incident has caused a substantial erosion of international sympathy, particularly in Europe, for Britain's position in the dispute. The missile attack on HMS *Sheffield* has revealed how vulnerable other ships in the task force could be to similar attacks.

The Sheffield incident also has dispelled the widely held view here that the Argentines would be either unwilling or unable to put up effective resistance to the British if fighting started.

Mrs Thatcher must now make some tough and painful choices, one source commented. Either she could go for an all-out military victory, which would be terribly bloody and would cause the further loss of world sympathy, or she could seek a diplomatic solution. However, the Argentines, having bloodied the British nose, seem in no mood to compromise on their insistence that Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands should be assured.

There are already indications that Britain, in its search for a compromise, is prepared to soften its position about the need for the 1,800 islanders to be able to determine their own future.

Last week British spokesmen were insisting that the wishes of the islanders should be "paramount". Now, however, they are simply saying that a solution should include "a mechanism for the islanders to express their will and for their wishes to be respected."

Argentina has already taken the diplomatic initiative by being the first to announce broad acceptance of the peace proposal put forward by Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General.

## Junta stands by its terms

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, May 6

Argentina was last night standing by the main elements of its preconditions for a negotiated settlement of the Falklands crisis. Despite the flurry of diplomatic activity, the feeling in Buenos Aires was that a breakthrough was not imminent.

The Government said it could not accept the withdrawal of troops from the islands as a precondition for negotiations and insisted that it would not enter talks until hostilities ended and international sanctions were lifted.

For the first time since the crisis began a Cabinet Minister was authorized by the junta today to outline the Government's position at a press conference.

Senior Admiral Frugoli, the Defence Minister (who as a civilian ranks as a comparatively junior member of the administration), was asked to state the circumstances

under which troops would be withdrawn, said: "Argentina has maintained that its undeniable claim of sovereignty over the islands be recognized as such. Provided it does not offend our honour and legitimate rights we are prepared to consider withdrawing the troops."

That response, according to the Foreign Ministry, should not be interpreted as a softening of Argentina's repeated insistence that it would negotiate everything but sovereignty.

Senior Frugoli emphatically denied that Argentina had sought military aid from the Soviet Union or anybody else, but did not rule it out in the future.

There were repeated rumours today that the British aircraft carrier *Hermes* had come under attack, but Senior Frugoli said merely that information would be released in due course.

## 6% for doctors, dentists, civil servants and Forces

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The Government yesterday announced that it had agreed to pay rises of about 6 per cent for civil servants, the armed forces and doctors and dentists. The forces will receive increases averaging 6.1 per cent, while civil servants will get an average 5.9 per cent rise as expected.

The increase for doctors and dentists will be 6 per cent and the Government has refused to pay an extra 3 per cent which was held over from last year's settlement.

All the increases exceed the 4 per cent target set for public service pay increases this year and ministers hope that the 2 per cent overshoot can be accommodated by savings, although as a last resort it was made clear yesterday that the Government would fund the excess from the contingency reserve.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher announced the awards in a written answer in the Commons yesterday. Increases

for non-manual civil servants will range from 4.75 per cent to 6.25 per cent, with the highest increases going to more experienced staff. The Government has accepted the decision of the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal, which rejected the union's 13 per cent demand but also improved the Governments market forces' offer of nil to 5.5 per cent.

The 330,000 service personnel will get the 6.1 per cent average rise from April 1. The Review Body on Armed Forces Pay said in its report that the increases recommended were "in our judgment appropriate for implementation now. They represent our assessment of what is required to maintain adequate recruitment to, and especially retention in, the armed forces."

The Government accepted in full the review body's recommendation and also the report of the Doctors and

### Army Pay Rises

	Present	Recommended
Brigadier	£20,800	£22,750
Colonel	£17,480	£18,998
1st Colonel	£15,012	£16,337
Captain	£13,104	£14,103
Lieutenant	£8,674	£9,174
2nd Lieutenant	£5,850	£6,249

WO1	£8,380	£8,913
Sergeant	£6,888	£7,380
Private IV	£4,084	£4,249

The recommended military salaries for officers are higher than the current rates by between 4.5 per cent and 8.9 per cent; for warrant officers and senior NCOs by between 5.8 per cent and 7 per cent; and for corporals and below by between 4 per cent and 5.8 per cent.

These are basic figures on appointment. Some members of the Armed Forces are eligible for additional payments according to the nature of their duties and responsibilities.

but postponed payment of a further 3 per cent and made clear yesterday that the 3 per cent would likewise not be paid this year.

Mrs Thatcher said in the written answer that the increases would be met in part within existing cash limits and estimates.

The pay award to doctors and dentists, which breaks the health service 4 per cent limit, will spur the other health service unions in their pay campaign (Felicity Jones writes).

The increase of 5.5 per cent for most doctors and dentists, with a special award of 6.3 to 8 per cent to junior hospital doctors, means that an extra £50m will have to be found.

It is thought the government plans to meet three-quarters of this extra spending from its contingency reserves and expects the rest to be met by health authorities.

The professional bodies are unhappy that the full recommended

of the review body for a further 3 per cent will not be implemented.

Dr John Havard, secretary of the British Medical Association (BMA), said that for the second year running the award left NHS doctors and dentists' pay below the levels thought appropriate by the review body.

The (BMA) has called on the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services to explain his reasons for this.

Almost half of the one million people working in the health services below the official government poverty line, according to the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) (Jeanette Mitchell writes).

Four hundred thousand nurses, including 200,000 nurses, take home less than £82 a week, the level at which Family Income Supplement is payable for a family with two children, Cohse claims in a new report, *The Facts on NHS* low pay, published yesterday.

## Argentina rejects withdrawal

# Peru's ceasefire move collapse

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

A plan for a ceasefire in the South Atlantic from 5pm London time today, to which the British Government had provisionally agreed, collapsed yesterday, when the Argentine Government refused to contemplate withdrawing its forces from the Falkland Islands.

At the same time it became known that the Prime Minister had secured the authority of the full Cabinet for an attack on airbases in mainland Argentina if this is seen as imperative for the protection of the task force.

The Peruvian Government, which with American support had acted as intermediary, reported that it had decided, after informal discussions with Argentine representatives in Lima, that it judged it wiser not even to present the peace plan formally for fear of prejudicing its relations with the Argentine government and its future usefulness.

The Argentines reported that the Argentine appeared confident that the United Nations Security Council would enforce a ceasefire which allowed them to remain on the islands. Britain is confident that this belief is baseless.

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said last night: "I am deeply disappointed that Argentine intransigence has once again frustrated a constructive initiative. Had they genuinely wanted peace they would have accepted the latest proposal put to them and we could have had a ceasefire in place by 5 pm tomorrow."

At Westminster the news destroyed hopes among MPs of all parties, which though modest, had grown stronger in the previous 48 hours, that a ceasefire was in prospect.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister at question time, showed some foreboding when Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, suggested there was a chance of a ceasefire and a real peace settlement. Mrs Thatcher thought it likely that the Argentines were concentrating on a ceasefire without withdrawal — "a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their ill-gotten gains".

Although a minority in the Labour Party, led by Mr Tony Benn, are urging the Government to agree to the unconditional ceasefire which Argentina seeks, Mr Foot and the Shadow Cabinet with the majority of Labour MPs and the other opposition parties, agree with the Government's refusal to contemplate it.

Labour was last night insisting, however, that the failure of the Peruvian initiative obliged the Government to pursue a settlement with equal vigour through the United Nations. Mrs Thatcher yesterday told MPs that the Government welcomed the Secretary-General's ideas and could accept them as a framework for more specific proposals, and Mr Foot welcomed the tone of her response.

She told him that the Secretary-General's proposals were not specific, and there was no timetable, but they did link cessation of hostilities with withdrawal.

Labour backbenchers failed to get a promise from Mrs Thatcher in the Commons that there would be no British attack on the Argentine mainland.

government was right to be "very, very wary". The Argentines, she said, could well be concentrating on a cease fire without withdrawal. That would be a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their ill-gotten gains.

To loud cheers from the Conservative benches, Mrs Thatcher told the House: "The whole of amandatory resolution 502 has to be accepted and there can be no ceasefire unless it is accompanied by a withdrawal which is fully and properly supervised."

The Prime Minister pointed out that there had been various, rather conflicting reports about the Argentine response to the Secretary-General's ideas. It seemed clear that while they were very interested in a ceasefire, they might not accept withdrawal and might do it on a totally different basis or require undertakings about sovereignty.

Mrs Thatcher replied that the government was right to be "very, very wary". The Argentines, she said, could well be concentrating on a cease fire without withdrawal. That would be a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their ill-gotten gains.

To loud cheers from the Conservative benches, Mrs Thatcher told the House: "The whole of amandatory resolution 502 has to be accepted and there can be no ceasefire unless it is accompanied by a withdrawal which is fully and properly supervised."

The Prime Minister pointed out that there had been various, rather conflicting reports about the Argentine response to the Secretary-General's ideas. It seemed clear that while they were very interested in a ceasefire, they might not accept withdrawal and might do it on a totally different basis or require undertakings about sovereignty.

Mrs Thatcher replied that the government was right to be "very, very wary". The Argentines, she said, could well be concentrating on a cease fire without withdrawal. That would be a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their ill-gotten gains.

To loud cheers from the Conservative benches, Mrs Thatcher told the House: "The whole of amandatory resolution 502 has to be accepted and there can be no ceasefire unless it is accompanied by a withdrawal which is fully and properly supervised."

The Prime Minister pointed out that there had been various, rather conflicting reports about the Argentine response to the Secretary-General's ideas. It seemed clear that while they were very interested in a ceasefire, they might not accept withdrawal and might do it on a totally different basis or require undertakings about sovereignty.

Mrs Thatcher replied that the government was right to be "very, very wary". The Argentines, she said, could well be concentrating on a cease fire without withdrawal. That would be a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their ill-gotten gains.

## Quick-what's the postage?



Its amazing how all those complicated postage calculations slow down your mail. And how much errors can cost you. Yet pushbutton Neopost Electronic Postal Scales give you precisely accurate postage, quick as a flash. When postal rates change, we automatically send you a new programme chip in advance. It's so easy. And while you're updating mailroom efficiency, don't miss our great new deal on the Neopost 2205 Franking Machine. Makes franking good sense!

## QUICK-POST THIS NOW

To UK Sales Division, Roneo Alcatel Limited, P.O. Box 65, Romford, Essex RM1 2NR. Please send me the facts on Electronic Postal Scales and Franking Machines.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Telex \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

Facsimile \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**RONEO ALCATEL**  
Keeping in touch with technology  
SEE US AT THE LONDON BUSINESS EFFICIENCY SHOW IN JUNE AND THE LONDON BUSINESS SHOW (BARBICAN) IN SEPTEMBER.

## £3m sought from unions for Labour poll fund

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union leaders are to be asked to dig deep into their political funds to provide the Labour Party with a £3m "war chest" for the next general election. They will also be asked to help to reduce the party's overdraft which, it is authoritatively calculated, will stand at £498,000 at the end of this year.

At a meeting next Wednesday, Trade Unions for Labour Victory will set in motion the process of fund raising to restore Labour's sagging financial position. Talks with Mr James Mortimer, the party's new general secretary, are expected to be the first step.

Mr David Bassett, chairman of TULV and general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, said yesterday: "We will be discussing how we can get together with the Labour Party to search for a solution to its financial problems and to talk about the need for the early establishment of a substantial general election fund."

TULV has resources of about £250,000 raised by a voluntary levy of affiliated unions earlier this year, but this is being given only for specific political projects on which union leaders can agree.

## Plea for heritage fund aid to buy Aintree

By Frances Gibb

The Jockey Club has appealed for help to the trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund, in its efforts to raise £7m to buy Aintree racecourse and save the Grand National.

The public appeal to save the racecourse, which will probably be formally launched in July, comes after a decision by the Aintree owner, Mr Bill Davies, a property dealer and chairman of the Walton Group, to sell. He is giving the Jockey Club first option at a price of £7m until November and a trust has been formed by the 10,000 members of the club, which owns several other racecourses through the Racecourse Holdings Trust, to raise the funds.

## Anaesthetic 'led to death'

From Our Correspondent, Sheffield

A woman died from the effects of an anaesthetic used in two routine operations within a week, an inquest in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, was told yesterday.

Mrs Hazel Tether, aged 39, an office cleaner, died two weeks after an operation at Rotherham District General Hospital, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, on a fractured ankle. Yesterday, the inquest was told that the anaesthetic halothane was used during two operations in the space of five days.

Mrs Tether suffered no ill effects after the first operation but after a second operation she became ill after being allowed home. She died on March 8, 14 days after the second operation.

Dr David Slater, a pathologist, said yesterday, that

death was due to acute liver failure caused by Mrs Tether's sensitivity to halothane. There was a one in 10,000 chance of death if halothane was used twice in a short space of time.

Dr David Edbrooke, the anaesthetist at the second operation, said it was impossible to detect sensitivity before it was used.

Mr Kenneth Potter, the coroner, recorded a verdict of misadventure, but said he would draw the case to the attention of the British Committee on the Safety of Drugs.

Afterwards, Mr Roy Tether, Mrs Tether's husband, a steelworker of Watson Mount, Kimberworth, Rotherham, said: "I will be taking legal action against the hospital."

## Shortage of students shuts 50 courses

By John O'Leary of the "Times Higher Educational Supplement"

More than 50 courses in colleges and polytechnics are to close and the future of another 340 will be reconsidered because they are running with fewer than the minimum number of students required by the Department of Education and Science. That means that at least one in seven advanced courses outside the universities is under-subscribed.

The figures came to light after a survey by the department which was considered on Tuesday by the new National Advisory Body for local authority higher education. They came at a time of record student numbers in the polytechnics and represent, according to a paper from the department, "a prima facie case for rationalization".

Approval is to be withdrawn in September from the most seriously under-subscribed courses, which are said to be "something in excess of 50". The advisory body is to

discuss the fate of the remaining 340 with the institutions involved and their local authorities, but it expects to close only a few in September.

More than 10,000 students are enrolled on the 340 courses under discussion, representing about 4 per cent of the student population in advanced further education. However, the department estimates that they may be pre-empting 8 per cent of the resources available for advanced courses.

Of the courses involved, about 130 have failed to meet their minimum targets for each of the past two years and 47 colleges are named as having 20 per cent or more of their advanced courses under-subscribed. Most of those are either predominantly engaged in non-advanced further education of are small, specialized institutions.

The larger polytechnics have the greatest number of courses described as "weakly recruited". Manchester polytechnic has 19, Leeds 17, and both Sheffield and Liverpool 17. However, Dr George Tooley, principal of Sheffield polytechnic, complained that the figures took no account of joint teaching arrangements or other special circumstances.

Most of the under-subscribed courses fall into seven subject areas: nursing and health education; mining, metal technology and materials science; hotel catering and institutional management; nautical studies; surveying; textile technology and manufacture; and physical science. Teacher training was excluded from the review, as were the voluntary colleges.

On average, the courses have only 28 students enrolled in each year, described in the department's paper as "far below the optimum economic number". Most were allowed to run either in the hope that numbers would pick up later.

## CLOSING DOWN SALE

On our huge stock of Persian and Oriental carpets, rugs, of all sizes, colours and designs. 3,000 pieces to choose from

OFFERING

up to 50% REDUCTION TO CLEAR

SALE STARTS 8TH MAY 1982

Open Monday to Saturday 10 am to 6.30 pm

also open Sunday 9th May 10 am to 6.00 pm.

## ORIENTAL CARPET GALLERIES

13 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W1.

(Opposite ASPREYS)

Tel: 01-493 9948, 01-493 2373



## Softly, softly cricket

Graham Saville, the former Essex batsman, explaining cricket techniques at Lord's training school yesterday to Police Constable Geoff Kingham, one of a group of London policemen who will try to teach softball ball cricket to young people from inner-city areas.

Bob Carter, the former Worcestershire bowler, (centre) helped to put the

officers, volunteers from beats concerned with community policing, through their paces.

A second group will attend the school early next month so that all the Metropolitan divisions are represented. It is hoped to organize a competition between police divisions later this year.

Mr Rhodes James said yesterday that he was

worried about the safety aspects. "Small children can easily walk under a half barrier. There is no precedent for having one in the immediate vicinity of an infants' school."

The crossing cuts the village of Cherry Hinton in half. Objections have come from the city and county councils and from a dozen local head teachers, as well as parents and residents. The heads want a full barrier and describe the present proposal as a "quite unacceptable experiment in the safety of young children".

Mr Mary Simpson, head of Cherry Hinton Infants' school, which has 230 children aged up to seven, said: "No academic reason is worth risking a child's life. It is all very well to say that mothers can hang on to toddlers but that just does not always happen in a normal world."

Concern about the half barriers stems from their design, consisting of two hinged booms which obstruct only the left hand side of the road approach. Lowered, they come down to about 3ft 6inches above ground level. Objectors want to see four booms complete with protective skirts so that children can not run through without realizing it.

The automatic half barrier is described by British Rail and the Department of Transport as a safe and cheap replacement for manned barriers. Although the department gives final approval to a draft order submitted by British Rail, a department inspector has apparently sanctioned preliminary approval.

Yesterday however, neither the department nor British Rail seemed sure of where responsibility lay. The procedure for approval is laid down in the British Transport Commission Act of 1957.

Doctors from Charing Cross Hospital, London, saddened by the amount of time they spend in treating preventable disease, have organized four public meetings to encourage a healthier life in their local community (our Medical Correspondent writes).

Miss Anna Ford last night introduced the first meeting on coronary heart disease. When two physicians explained the preventable nature of many of the causes of that condition and the need for regular blood pressure checks.

Doctors drive for health

Doctors from Charing Cross Hospital, London, saddened by the amount of time they spend in treating preventable disease, have organized four public meetings to encourage a healthier life in their local community (our Medical Correspondent writes).

Miss Anna Ford last night introduced the first meeting on coronary heart disease. When two physicians explained the preventable nature of many of the causes of that condition and the need for regular blood pressure checks.

On average, the courses have only 28 students enrolled in each year, described in the department's paper as "far below the optimum economic number". Most were allowed to run either in the hope that numbers would pick up later.

Five law Lords ruled that she was entitled to sue for damages, although she was not at the scene of the accident. Law report, page 8.

Soliciting fine

Miss Sophie Cordle, aged 24, of Paddington, west London, who is the daughter of Mr John Cordle, a former Conservative MP, admitted soliciting when she appeared at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court yesterday. Miss Cordle, a former heroin addict, was fined £25 or given an alternative of a day's detention.

Security check

Security at a Northampton probation office has been heightened after confidential files were found by a man walking his dog in a wood. The chief probation officer said he believed that the files were placed by mistake with rubbish outside the office and then blown into the wood near by.

## Snow not the Falklands provides the talking point in Scottish polls

By Jonathan Willis, Scottish Correspondent

### LOCAL ELECTIONS

Voters in central and southern Scotland woke up to an unseasonably white polling day yesterday. Heavy snow made roads difficult and most polling stations reported a slow start.

The snow eased in Glasgow by mid-morning and there was brisker voting around lunchtime but, as is traditional in the West of Scotland, the ballot boxes did most of their business after 5 pm.

In the Lothian region, where the Labour administration was defending a one seat majority, against a challenge from the SDP/Liberal Alliance and the Conservatives, the snow persisted until mid-afternoon and polling was reported to be very slow.

Similar reports came from Tayside, Fife and the Borders regions.

Further north, the weather was better. A cold but dry day provided little excuse for light polling in Grampian and the Highlands.

Grampian's Conservative

stronghold seemed unlikely to fall to pressure from Labour, Scottish National Party and alliance candidates contesting 44 seats.

Ten grampian councillors, 8 Conservatives, have been elected unopposed.

North of the Highland line, party politics are largely eschewed by candidates for local government. Only 12 of the candidates fighting 27 contested seats in the Highland region wore party labels. Logistical problems in that large area of Scotland will delay the start of the Highlands count until 9 am today.

Sunshine greeted a fair turnout of voters in the Western Isles, whose weather was, as usual, the opposite of that in the central lowlands. "No party politics, please", was the clear message in the

11 contested seats, where only independents were standing.

Polling was described as light in Shetland, where only nine of the 25 seats were contested. The weather was fine, for a change, but little change seems likely in a council dominated by independents with leanings towards the Shetland home-rule movement. One home-rule candidate was standing in Orkney.

A subject of controversy in the Orkney press lately has been the Orkney Labour Party's decision to field five candidates, and unprecedented move in islands where councillors' party affiliations are usually a matter for reticence.

Throughout Scotland, the weather was the predominant topic of conversation on polling day, eclipsing the Falklands crisis and the Government's forthcoming £45m sanctions against Lothian Region, where the Secretary of State for Scotland has accused the ruling

Labour group of excessive and unreasonable spending. The big fear of the SDP/Liberal Alliance was that it would be squeezed out by the Falklands issue, which has taken attention from the "community politics" of Liberal and SDP candidates.

Mr David Miller, general secretary of the Liberal Party in Scotland, blamed the media for the apparent lack of interest in the election. "I think they have neglected it", he said. "I think this is worrying because we in the Liberal party believe that democracy is a relatively fragile plant".

Local government spending cuts in Birmingham led to the press having to pay for facilities to report election results (the Press Association reports).

Media organizations were told that they could not have telephone facilities in the Council House and that if late-night access to the press room required security men who man the doors, would have to be paid.

## School level crossing complaints

By David Nicholson-Lord

Safety rules for level crossings have been questioned in the light of a move by British Rail to install an automatic "half-barrier" next to a nursery and infants' school near Cambridge.

The proposal has led to protests and appeals for government intervention. Residents argue that the barrier will leave half the road and a pavement "completely open" to small children. They claim that such a barrier has never before been installed next to a school.

British Rail describes that claim as sweeping and says it wants to meet costs by replacing a manual crossing. But its plan has led Mr Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for Cambridge, to seek the intervention of Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, and Sir Peter Parker, British Rail's chairman.

Mr Rhodes James said yesterday that he was worried about the safety aspects. "Small children can easily walk under a half barrier. There is no precedent for having one in the immediate vicinity of an infants' school."

The crossing cuts the village of Cherry Hinton in half. Objections have come from the city and county councils and from a dozen local head teachers, as well as parents and residents.

The heads want a full barrier and describe the present proposal as a "quite unacceptable experiment in the safety of young children".

Ministers have decided that the public inquiry into the safety of level crossings must be held in Essex, must have a closed session about safety guards against sabotage.

Objectors who want the terminal to be closed say that the danger of sabotage must be included in the public examination of possible risk to the island's population of more than 30,000.

In January, 1979 a bomb fixed to a Canvey oil tank by the IRA blew a hole in the casing but failed to ignite the fuel inside. The decision to exclude the public and many objectors from part of the inquiry is especially sensitive because it coincides with the passage through Parliament of a Bill intended to reduce the chances of holding such inquiries in camera.

The Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill was introduced by Mr Michael Hamilton, Conservative MP for Salisbury, and received its third reading last week.

The Department of the Environment has said that the Government will make an announcement about a session through Mr Alan de Piro, QC, the inspector at the inquiry. "The question is how private it will be."

More than 200 accident victims with sound claims for compensation have come forward after being offered a free interview with a solicitor. They are now receiving settlements of an average of £1,000.

The free legal advice scheme for victims of accidents has been set up on a pilot basis in Manchester after concern that they fail to go to solicitors and seek compensation.

The findings of the scheme have been published by the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford, which was commissioned by the Greater Manchester Legal Services Committee, a group of laymen and lawyers who set up the scheme nearly two years ago.

Most victims who came forward would not have attempted to make a claim for damages had it not been for the scheme's existence, the report found. Nearly two thirds of those using the scheme had never before consulted a solicitor and few knew of the existence of legal aid.

The chief study of the Manchester survey, are lack of knowledge about legal rights, fear of legal costs, uncertainty about locating a solicitor and apprehension about making the initial approach.

Miss Hazel Genu, author of the report, says that in the aftermath of injury, the responsibility for a damages claim rests squarely with the injured individual, who is unlikely to have had experi-

## Battle over satellite TV

By Kenneth Gosling

Battle has been joined between the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) over which satellite transmission system is suitable for public use in the 1990s and beyond. Each has been proclaiming the virtues of its own system, better sound, superior pictures and little adaptation needed to domestic receivers.

A decision is expected early next year, and nowhere will it be awaited with keener expectation than in the field of receiver manufacture, where makers are unable to complete their ideas for the design of new sets.

The viewer of the future will be as much concerned about picture quality, IBA engineers believe their system will fill the bill.

The IBA carried out its first experimental transmissions with the new multiplexed analogue component (MAC) system last month in preparation for a demonstration to European broadcast engineers.

MAC is a system said to be able to overcome the difficulties of incompatibility between the different colour-coding systems, Pal and Secam, used in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

If adopted for direct broadcasting satellites (DBS), it would, engineers say, overcome the technical barriers to television broadcasting across national frontiers, and at the same time provide viewers with better quality pictures.

There are, the engineers say, seven main advantages: a single 625-line colour system for Europe;

a clearer picture free from defects which show up as unwanted movement of static patterns;

the option of improved resolution pictures suitable for large-screen display in the 1990s;

ability to transmit within existing channel bandwidths allocated for satellite broadcasting;

suitability for use with multi-channel sound systems required for international television broadcasting;

information systems said to lead to a single design of satellite adaptor unit for Europe.

The IBA rejects a BBC argument that its system will take longer to implement. "If someone made a quick decision and said we will go ahead with MAC it would not delay the satellites at all," a spokesman says.

"We claim that MAC has a reception advantage over any of the other systems. You can also have a slightly smaller dish aerial or one of the same size that will give a better reception of overseas satellites. There is also a greater margin against deterioration of the installation."

Five satellite channels will be available in 1986 of which the BBC has been allocated two. The corporation says a key factor in any new transmission system must be compatibility so that receivers can continue to work with new-standard signals; although new receivers would be necessary to derive full benefit.

The introduction of any non-compatible system could require many years for international agreement and new receiver development and hence seriously delay the establishment of satellite broadcasting in this country.

The IBA says its Mac system, in development at its engineering centre in Crawley, Court, Hampshire, is arousing considerable interest among European and North American broadcasting organizations. Last month 150 engineers visited Crawley. "It amounts to about 50 specialists returning from a conference in Dublin."

Who wins the battle for the European standard system is still anyone's guess.

More money should be spent on the careers - those people, mainly women and mainly young, who look after old and handicapped relations, according to two reports published by the Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday.

There are about 1.25 million carers in Britain, most of whom are women, the commission says. Society now expects family and friends to support the old and the handicapped and that generally means the burden falling on women, thus restricting their opportunities.

The state invalid care allowance is given only to women who are and always have been single but to all men, regardless of their marital status, provided they cannot work because they are looking after a severely disabled person.

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

It is not paid to married or cohabiting women on the ground that they would not normally be working and would therefore not lose income by providing care.

"The policy is revealed as a euphemism for an under-resourced system which places heavy burdens on individual members of the community, most of them women, the research report says. "It represents care on the cheap."

The commission is asking employers and unions to work together to draw up more flexible working arrangements for carers and is pressing the Government to pay invalid care allowance to all women looking after the old or handicapped.

Who cares for the carers? Opportunities for those caring for the elderly and handicapped and caring for the elderly and handicapped: a community care policy and a women's issue (Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN. Free).

## Ulster Bill could face Commons filibuster

By Anthony Devins, Political Correspondent

Senior ministers seemed to accept the possibility last night that the Government's Northern Ireland Bill might be filibustered into the ground by hardline Commons opponents over the coming months.

Mr Enoch Powell, the Official Ulster Unionist MP for (Down South), told Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the Commons, yesterday that the legislation, which has its second reading in the Commons on Monday, was regarded by almost every section in Northern Ireland as an affront.

He suggested that at a time of crisis over the Falklands the Government should withhold the Bill; and he was supported in that by two Conservative MPs, Sir John Biggs-Davison, John Forster, and Mr John Farr, Harborough.

Normally the expression of such hostility to the Bill, which proposes the creation of a 78-member Northern Ireland Assembly with an eventual devolution of power from Westminster, would prove no problem in a Government with a substantial majority of the House.

But it was disclosed last night that when the Bill goes into its committee stage, on the floor of the House, ministers might draw back from the imposition of a guillotine to curtail debate.

It was said last night that the Government would be

surprised if more than 20 Conservative backbenchers voted against the Bill on Monday's second reading vote. The official Labour Opposition will abstain.

But when the Bill goes into committee an alliance of Ulster Unionist and Conservative opponents can be expected to mount a filibuster to impede progress of the legislation.

One government source commented last night that there was no question of voting the Bill; but rather the strength of opponents' lungs. The point was made that there was no precedent for imposing a guillotine on a measure of the Bill's character in post-war years, a fact which was volunteered with significant alacrity.

The doubt over the Government's commitment to its own legislation was countered last night by statements that ministers did indeed want to see the Bill reach the Statute Book.

Nevertheless it was also stated that as with the reform of the Lords, the point could come, if opposition in the Commons was concerted and apparently inexhaustible, when it was no longer "worth the candle".

The difficulty for ministers is that Mr Powell, Mr Biggs-Davison, Mr Farr and other likely opponents have in the past proved their stamina in parliamentary debate.

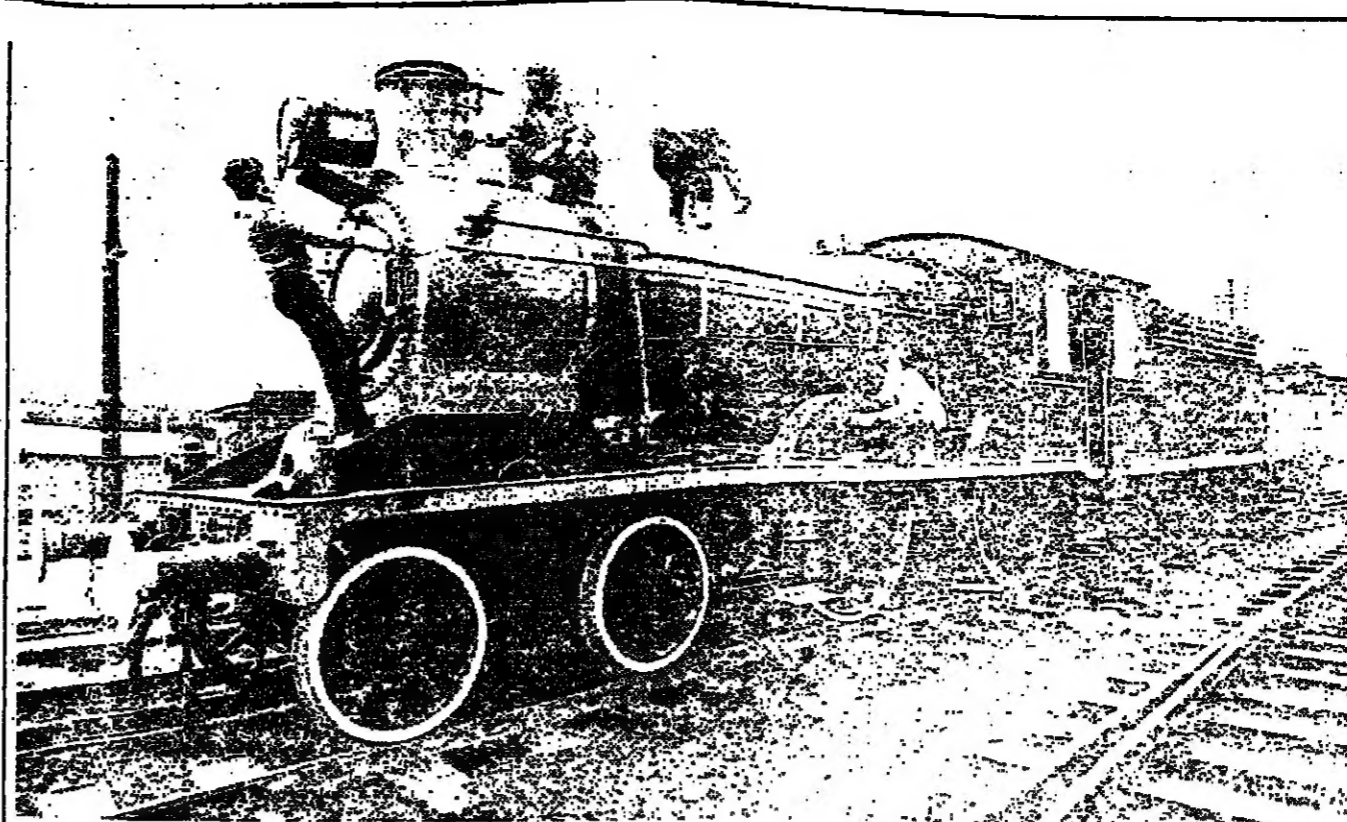
If Labour MPs, acting independently of the Opposition Front Bench, then take their cue from the hostility of Ulster's minority Social Democratic and Labour Party and the prime minister in Dublin, the Government's determination to persevere with the legislation could well be wiped out.

### Police hunt post office raiders

Police in Co Down were hunting three men yesterday who had raided a village post office and left an elderly woman dead. She was thought to have been stabbed (Craig Seton writes from Belfast).

Miss Maureen McCann, aged 64, the sister of Mr Hubert McCann, the postmaster at Killybegs, died after a struggle with at least one of the raiders. The police said there was no thought to be a terrorist connexion.

A soldier and a policeman were in hospital yesterday after they were both injured in separate bomb incidents. The soldier was seriously wounded when a bomb attached to the security gates at Durham Street, close to Belfast city centre, exploded. The policeman received leg injuries when a booby-trapped bomb attached to his garage doors exploded.



A 1911 steam locomotive of the Pakistan Railways was the centre of attention among rail enthusiasts in Manchester yesterday after a month-long voyage from Karachi. The 440 locomotive is a gift from the Pakistan Government to the city's North-western Museum of Science and Industry. The engine was built at the Vulcan factory, near Manchester.

### Judge asks for airport documents

Lord Cuckfield, Minister of State at the Treasury, was ordered by a High Court judge in London yesterday to hand over government documents related to British airport landing charges.

"Documents as close as this to the Government have never before been ordered to be produced", Mr Justice Bingham said. The ministerial papers, which related to government policy decisions, were needed in the public interest, he said.

In a preliminary hearing the judge granted an application by Air Canada and Pan Am that the papers be handed over for his inspection before a High Court order in October when airlines will challenge increased landing charges at Heathrow. A stay of the order was granted pending an appeal.

Giving judgment in open court after a hearing in private, the judge said the airlines were alleging that the Secretary of State for Trade and the British Airport Authority had acted beyond their powers in raising airport fees more than two years ago.

Counsel for the Secretary of State had claimed that the papers should be withheld in the public interest as they contained details of formulation of government policy.

But, the judge said, the documents were necessary for the due administration of justice. "The concern of the court must surely be that its final decision should be made on a sure foundation of fact."

It was clear that the papers contained high-level government information and related to matters of great importance to the United Kingdom.

"Never before have ministers' working papers been produced", the judge said. "The consequences of production could be potentially far-reaching."

The airlines alleged that the Secretary of State acted outside his powers by imposing a financial target on the British Airport Authority.

"The documents are crucial to determination of this issue", the judge said.

It was the ministerial papers, rather than purely official documents, which should be handed over because it was the minister's thinking that was crucial.

In February last year 16 foreign airlines were ordered by Mr Justice Parker to pay the British Airport Authority an estimated £2m in Heathrow landing charges, withheld since the increases.

### Council fox hunt ban in South Glamorgan

From Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent, Cardiff

South Glamorgan County Council yesterday voted to ban fox hunting on its farms after a long and boisterous debate. Cheerful insults were exchanged across the crowded council chamber as Conservative members fought rearguard actions against acceptance of a proposal from the agriculture committee.

The committee advised the council "to take all steps available to it as landowners to prevent fox hunting across its 70 farms. The Glamorgan Hunt's country includes about 400 acres of the 3,000 acres covered by the farms. Mr Howard Gough, chairman of the agriculture committee, said that would soon attempt to introduce a similar measure against hare hunts.

Lord Brooks of Tremorfa, a former Labour chairman of the council, said that there was no need for a whip on his group at yesterday's meeting because all of its members condemned hunting. An attempt to disallow the committee's advice was defeated by 43 votes to 33.

Mr Steve James, a Labour councillor, said: "We as landowners feel that foxhunting is a cruel, barbaric and unnecessary snail-paced sport. We are going to do everything we can to outlaw such a stupid and ignorant activity."

Mr William Bain, a Conservative councillor, was annoyed by Labour claims that the agriculture committee had been given legal advice that a ban could be imposed on tenants.

"The tenants are trying to farm a well by keeping out the vermin, and the fox is vermin — like the bloody lawyers", he said.

Several Conservatives said that an important issue was the attempt by Labour councillors to interfere with tenants' rights to allow legal activity on the land they rented.

Mr Gough said that he might have favoured consultation with tenants after yesterday's meeting if the ban had not passed through his committee with a recommendation that tenants be told of it.

He added that there was "total opposition" to hunting in the Labour group. "I do not think it would make any difference if there had been consultation."

### Poultry welfare warning

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent

Poultry producers should remember that animal welfare was an emotive issue of which many people held sincere views which ran contrary to their's, Mr John Maund, chairman of the British Poultry Federation, told the federation's annual meeting in London yesterday.

"We would do well to accept and respect this, to take careful note of what our critics say, and to be sure that we satisfy ourselves that our practices and husbandry do not cause unnecessary suffering to the livestock in our care", he continued.

But the British poultry industry should not bear a greater financial burden arising out of welfare requirements than that borne by its continental competitors. If it did, then imports from countries with lesser standards and burdens should be prohibited.

The federation was determined to keep to the present system of battery cages for hens until the advantages of an alternative system were clearly demonstrated, Mr Maund said.

### Tebbit gives warning on ending benefit

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Supplementary benefit could not be used as a "mattress" to support young people who preferred to be out of the Government's planned Youth Training Scheme, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday.

Confirming earlier speculation that the Government was intending to "close" the ending of supplementary benefit for 16-year-olds Mr Tebbit said that when the new Youth Training Scheme — on which young people are expected to receive a £25 a week — began in earnest in September 1983 some might not wish to take jobs, further education or training.

He added at a meeting of the West of England Engineering Employers' Association in Bristol: "That is the decision to make but it is not the duty of Government to provide with taxpayers' cash an incentive for them to opt out of working life."

Employers required to pay their workers statutory minimum wages will now be

### Rise in child deaths

There were 71 deaths from accidents in British farms last year, the lowest figure ever recorded, the Health and Safety Executive disclosed yesterday.

But, while welcoming the long-term downward trend, Mr Jim Whitaker, the Government's chief agricultural inspector, said that there was no room for complacency.

The number of child fatalities increased; of the 13 children who died, three were under four and another six under nine. Young children should be kept in safe play areas away from farm hazards, Mr Whitaker emphasized. Deaths from overturning tractors increased from seven in 1980 to 12 last year.

### Women's union plan

The Women's Farming Union said yesterday that it hoped to extend its retail surveillance scheme to all fresh fruit and vegetables in a campaign to improve quality.

Mrs Teresa Wickham, the union's chairman, said that, unlike the National Farmers' Union and the Consumers' Association, it represented the interests of both producers and consumers.

### CS gas used to end house siege

Correspondent

The police in Nottingham yesterday sprayed CS riot gas into the home of a man they said was mentally ill to end a seven-hour siege (Our Nottingham Correspondent writes).

It was the first time the gas, which was used during last summer's fighting between police and youths in Toxteth, Liverpool, had been used in Nottingham.

The man, aged 35, had barricaded himself in the loft of his home in Hendon Road, St. Ann's. He refused to leave, the police said, and threw tiles through a hole in the roof. When the man was taken to a psychiatric hospital, where he was detained last night.

The spokesman said the man had armed himself with an axe. "We feared he was hurt himself. It was the only way to end the siege. In view of his condition it is unlikely that any charges will be preferred."

### Plea to Lords on Extradition

The United States Government was given leave yesterday to appeal to the Lords against a ruling by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court last month that Gall Jennings, aged 21, of Green Close, Highfield, Tyngington, Hampshire, should not be extradited to face charges in Los Angeles arising out of a road accident in 1978 in which a cyclist aged 13 died. The Divisional Court ruled that the offence was not sufficiently grave to warrant extradition.

### Action settled

A civil action against the Chief Constable of Merseyside and two police constables alleging wrongful arrest and assault on Mr Francis Anthony Allen, aged 39, of Lincoln Road, Huyton, ended abruptly yesterday at High Court when Mr John Roberts, for the defendants, said the matter had been settled.

### Demotion appeal

Police Constable Michael Hayden, aged 35, from Birton, near Hitchin, Hertfordshire, who was demoted from the rank of sergeant after refusing to tackle a man believed to be armed in October 1980 is to appeal against the decision at a Home Office tribunal.

### Buses stop

Crossville bus services on north Merseyside were halted yesterday when more than 100 drivers and engineers walked out from the Edge Lane depot in Liverpool in a dispute over working practices.

### Nalco action

The emergency committee of the National and Local Government Officers Association decided yesterday to take industrial action from Monday in support of a pay claim.

### Court escape

Six men on remand escaped from Manchester city magistrates court yesterday. They were to appear on charges of theft and burglary.

### Jailed for life

Daniel Horvath, aged 50, a builder, of Beech Avenue, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, was jailed for life yesterday at Northampton Crown Court for murdering Mr Francis Carberry.

### Police check reports of dustcart ambush

By David Hewson

The police are treating seriously two reports that private contractors in the London Borough of Wandsworth were ambushed while collecting rubbish during a three-week dustmen's strike.

Mr Jan Leer, a director of Pritchard Industrial Services, the company responsible for the collection, says that on the latest occasion he was attacked by a gang of seven men, three of them wearing Wandsworth Borough Council donkey jackets.

The National Union of Public Employees dismisses Mr Leer's claims as crude propaganda and promises to prolong a dispute which is growing into the most serious conflict yet as a result of changing local authority refuse collection to private firms.

At the heart of the dispute is the character of Pritchard Industrial Services (PIS), part of a large and successful international group now intent on winning more lucrative local authority contracts.

PIS indirectly started the dispute in Wandsworth when its winning of the contract for Wandsworth's street cleaning was marked by a visit to the borough by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment. Demonstrators threw eggs and biscuits at Mr Heseltine, but PIS gave him a letter offering to take over the council's rubbish disposal services as well for an annual cost of £2.1m compared with £2.9m at the moment.

### Postwar art sale sets 14 price records

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's set 14 auction price records for postwar art in their sale of contemporary art in New York on Wednesday night.

The sale was exceptionally successful (18 per cent unsold) for a field notoriously difficult to handle at auction. Most works having been bought recently from dealers at high prices, a public auction can seldom deliver a profit or even match purchase prices.

Christie's explained the success of the sale by pointing to the very high quality of the works offered. It was the strongest offering in New York for many years, a spokesman said.

A large (84in by 143in) black painting by Stella, dating from 1958 and titled "Reichstag", brought the top price at \$462,000 (unpublished estimate \$400,000 to \$500,000) or £255,350.

It is in black enamel on canvas with a pattern of 23 black paintings over a 16-month period, most of which are now in Museums. This was the second.

A painting by Jackson Pollock entitled "Night Dancer (Green)" and dating from 1944, nearly doubled pre-sale expectations to fetch \$330,000 or £182,320.

Other auction records included the \$297,000 (unpublished estimate \$300,000 to \$350,000) or £164,088 for a big red canvas by Mark Rothka entitled "No. 1" (unpublished estimate \$200,000 to \$225,000) or £121,547 for Franz Kline's "Horizontal Rust" of 1960 and \$115,500 (estimate \$50,000 to \$70,000) or £63,812 for Milton Avery's "Black Tree" of 1945.

In London yesterday a sale of antiques at Christie's was 23 per cent unsold.

### Chief constable wins bank freeze appeal

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The police were entitled to a court injunction freezing the bank account of a man facing forgery and deception charges, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

By a two to one decision the court allowed an appeal by Mr Barry Paine, the chief constable of Kent, against the refusal of a High Court judge to continue the injunction.

### Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, held that the High Court had power to grant the police an injunction preventing him from drawing on his bank account so that in due course ill-gotten money could be restored to the true owner.

"It would be a mockery of disposing of the goods or their proceeds pending his trial", Lord Denning said. "The court must have power to grant an injunction to stop him doing so. As long as it could be traced, it could be frozen."

The accused man could apply to the court to release sums needed for his defence or other "proper payments", he added.

Lord Justice Donaldson said the chief constable should assert his right to detain the money by using a writ claiming a declaration to that effect. The freezing injunction would then be ancillary to that.

Disagreeing, Lord Justice Slade said the police themselves had no power under common law to detain intangible assets, even if they had reasonable grounds for suspecting they were traceable back to property obtained from another in breach of the law. The chief constable had established no legal or equitable right to the bank account to give him sufficient legal standing to seek an injunction.

### Wilcox wins £14,000 libel damages against 'Eye'

Mr Desmond Wilcox, the television producer, won libel damages of £14,000 in the High Court yesterday from Private Eye, the satirical magazine, which had accused him of misusing his position at the BBC to "line his own pockets".

Mr Justice Jupp said Private Eye had waged a "campaign of denigration" against Mr Wilcox, who is married to Esther Rantzen, of BBC television's *That's Life* programme.

"The damages must compensate for the anxiety and hurt he felt, the reproachful attitude he encountered in the BBC and the effect on his career prospects," the judge said.

He said four articles, one in 1975, two in 1980 and one in January this year, had libelled Mr Wilcox. A further four articles in 1975 were not defamatory on their own "but they must have reminded some readers of the original article".

The libellous articles wrongly accused Mr Wilcox of misusing his position as head of BBC General Features "putting himself forward as the writer of a book based on the BBC's *Explorers* series, produced by his department."

The judge said although Mr Wilcox made about £20,000 he had been persuaded reluctantly to undertake

the job and had not abused his position.

But the judge said accusations that Mr Wilcox was guilty of plagiarism were justified. In 1980 the BBC and Mr Wilcox were sued for breach of copyright over the use of scriptwriters' work for the *Explorers* series in the book.

The judge said he was awarding a "considerably smaller" sum of damages than he might otherwise have done because references to plagiarism and breach of copyright concerning the *Explorers* book were justified.

Mr Wilcox said after the three-week hearing: "I am very satisfied."

### Attempt to imprison magistrate fails

An attempt by Mr Casimir Simeon, a student, to jail Mr Eric Crowther, the West London Stipendiary Magistrate, for alleged contempt of court, was the height of absurdity, Lord Justice Ackner said in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court yesterday.

In February the court ruled in a test case that courts had no legal authority to hear any more prosecutions brought under the controversial "sus" law. The offence of being a "suspected person loitering with intent" was abolished.

Last November, Mr Crowther rejected a submission by Mr Simeon, of Philip Lane, Tottenham, north London, that he had no jurisdiction to hear a charge brought against Mr Simeon under the "sus" law.

Yesterday Mr Simeon represented by Lord Gifford, QC, sought to commit Mr Crowther for his failure on February 25 to comply with the Divisional Court ruling.

Lord Justice Ackner, sitting with Mr Justice Woolf, said the case raised matters of public importance affecting a number of outstanding cases and should be decided ultimately by the House of Lords. From a commonsense point of view the present application was wholly devoid of any merit and would be dismissed.

### If you believe practical skills can defeat world poverty, you don't have to go overseas to help through VSO.

Voluntary Service Overseas people believe in helping The Third World help itself through the sharing of practical skills.

But the 500 volunteer agriculturalists, teachers, craftsmen and professionals who go each year, to live and work with Third World communities, depend on the support of many other VSO people working actively in this country.

Will you please help VSO as a member?

It will mean a small financial commitment and as much or as little time, skill and energy as you can spare.

As a member you'll pay an annual subscription of £5 (though many give more). You'll have a democratic say in deciding how the money should be employed. You'll receive the VSO members' journal. Other advantages include: a free booklet on VSO affairs. Whether you later decide to join a local VSO group, help in fund-raising, contribute some special skill or even stand for election to the VSO Council — is completely up to you.

Financial note: Every £1 we can raise to sponsor volunteers attracts British Government support of a further £9. And Third World communities themselves, contribute as much again. But without your £5 VSO cannot begin to unlock these valuable additional funds.

Find out more about VSO membership by post or coupon and a.s.a.e. to VSO, 9 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PW.

Please send me more details of VSO membership and of the tax benefits to VSO through a covenanted membership.

Enclose a stamped addressed envelope

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

VSO is a registered charity No. 1316722 T.M.S.

### Science report

### Meteorite yields 'life-like' acids

By the Staff of "Nature"

Detailed analysis of a meteorite from southern Australia has shown it to contain amino acids with the same "left-handed" structure as those found in terrestrial life. While the left-handed amino acids were almost certainly not produced by extraterrestrial life, they may have been formed by the same process which took place prior to the origin of life on earth.

Amino acids are the building blocks for the proteins found in all biological systems. Although two molecular structures (called stereoisomers) are possible for each kind of amino acid, with one being the mirror image of the other, living organisms contain the left-handed form. In the absence of life, as in space, one would expect amino acids to be produced and exist in equal quantities of the two structural forms. Knowing whether amino acids found in meteorites are present in one form only or as a mixture of the two forms is therefore of great relevance to the question of how these molecules were formed in space.

Meteorites have been found to contain traces of amino acids but always with equal concentrations of the two forms, indicating that they were formed by an essentially random process without selective production of the left-handed form as characterizes terrestrial life. However, the new research seems to be at odds with those earlier results.

Dr Michael Engel and Dr Bartholomew Nagy, of the University of Arizona, made a careful analysis of a single meteorite, using only the inner part of the stone and taking thorough precautions against contamination by terrestrial material. Five different amino acids were present largely in the left-handed form. The amino acids found in highest concentrations in the meteorite are rare on earth and the commonest terrestrial amino acids were absent or present only in minute amounts. Two purified amino acids which are present in human perspiration and are therefore characteristic of terrestrial contamination were also virtually absent, supporting other evidence that there had not been contamination during handling of the samples in the laboratory.

After corroborating their results with other research workers to check their findings, Engel and Nagy come to the conclusion that the amino acids they found are genuine and not likely to be due to contamination. They suggest that in order to account for their observations there must exist some unknown process which selectively synthesizes the left-handed form of the amino acids on the parent body from which the meteorite was formed. Certainly they will now have to be considered thought as to the mechanisms responsible for these unusual findings but, few, if any, scientists will find it necessary to invoke the presence of extraterrestrial life.

Nature, (vol 296, p 837, April 29, 1982).

© Nature-Times News Service, 1982.

# Thatcher welcome for United Nations ideas

## FALKLANDS

Britain welcomed the ideas put forward on the Falkland Islands crisis by Señor Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary General, and could accept them as a framework on which more specific proposals could be built, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, stated during questions in the House of Commons.

But she warned that Argentina might be concentrating on a ceasefire without withdrawal as a ploy to keep their illegitimate gains. No specific details were attached to the Secretary General's proposals and no timetable but they did link cessation of hostilities with withdrawal, which was to be expected in view of the Security Council resolution.

Mrs Thatcher said for any proposals to work and command confidence they must be precise as to the timing, sequence and verification of events.

If Britain agreed to there being no military activity during negotiations, the Falklanders would remain under the heel of the invader, while the Argentines increased their activities on the mainland and increased their supplies and reserves in order to attack Britain at will.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, questioning Mrs Thatcher about diplomatic discussions, said: Does she not agree that there appears to be a real chance of a move towards a sensible ceasefire leading to other developments and that there is also a chance of moving towards a real peace settlement?

Does she agree that everything visible should be done to ensure that chance and that nothing should be done to injure it?

In particular, what is her and the Government's response to the proposals from the Secretary General of the United Nations?

Mr Healey (chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and commonwealth affairs) has suggested that there should be a ceasefire once, and I hope Mrs Thatcher will give a full statement about it.

Mrs Thatcher: Of course we are doing everything possible to pursue the diplomatic path to a negotiated settlement. There are two sets of proposals.

There is the one being pursued by the United States through the Four to which we have made a very constructive response and we hope to hear more about this today, but whether the Argentines will respond in the same way we do not know.

The other is being pursued through the Secretary General.

There have been various, rather conflicting reports about the Argentine response to them but it seems clear that while they are very interested in a ceasefire they may not accept withdrawal as a condition for a ceasefire. It is a totally different basis or sequence of undertakings about sovereignty.

So there is some doubt about what they have said. They have probably said they are prepared to discuss it further with the Secretary General.

We welcome the ideas which the Secretary General has put forward and can accept them as a framework on which more specific proposals could be built. We are sending a message to the Secretary General today to that effect.

It would not be impossible, indeed it may well be likely, that the Argentines are concentrating on a ceasefire without withdrawal. That would be a very evident ploy to keep them in possession of their illegitimate gains and we are right to be very wary of it. (Conservative cheers)

The whole of the mandatory resolution 502 has to be accepted and there can be no ceasefire unless it is accompanied by withdrawal which is fully and properly supervised.

Mr Foot: I understand it could well be the case that the Argentine MFs agree these.

Mr Foot: I understand that there would be great ambiguity in the reply from the Argentine Government. Do the Secretary General's proposals include a ceasefire and if so, that is presumably a reason why Mrs Thatcher has given a positive answer?

I certainly welcome the tone she used in speaking about her response to the Secretary General's suggestions. I hope very much that we can proceed along those lines.

Can she respond on the earlier matter, the diplomatic exchange taking place? I am not referring to the Argentine Government but to her response.

Can she give an absolute assurance that the whole country would wish to see this — that there will be no deliberate escalation of military action (Labour cheers) — escalation which could injure the prospects which appear to be much more hopeful of getting peace in this area?

Mrs Thatcher: He asked about the Secretary General's proposals. It is for the Secretary General to say what they are. We do not know much of a framework and no specific details are attached.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.

Mr Walker: We are continuing to consider what action is required. Mr Eddle: The commitments now given by the Labour Party to nationalize all tenanted farm land with minimal compensation will dry up the supply of farms. There is a need to continue the dialogue to explore ways of finding farms and smallholdings to let on terms and conditions and rent which will meet the approval of landowners and tenants alike.

Mr Walker: Yes, after all these years of reiterated land nationalization proposals, it is surprising and perhaps electorally pleasing that the Labour Party in its present form continues with the outdated and useless suggestion.

There is no timetable but they do link the cessation of hostilities with withdrawal as you would expect in view of Security Council Resolution 502.

Beyond that there is no timing of practical arrangement but they are a basis for discussion.

As for a change in the climate of diplomatic negotiations, that was not a justifiable comment. The Secretary General's proposals are the sixth set of proposals which I have discussed with him in detail over the past month. That is hardly a lack of diplomatic activity.

Mr Foot: I am much more interested in getting progress in discussing the Secretary General's proposals than in securing any points off Mrs Thatcher. (Conservative laughter). We who have urged all through the crisis that the kind of response should be made to approaches from the Secretary General have a right to say that.

I fully understand that these are procedural proposals, first, from the Secretary General, but I hope very much that the maximum possible support can be given in the next 24 hours or two or three days to those proposals.

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, they are framework proposals. We are making positive responses to them. We hope to hear more about the Secretary General's proposals today but stress again that any proposals are to be acceptable and if they are to work and command confidence, they must be precise as to timing, sequence and verification of events. (Conservative cheers)

Mr Peter Viggers (Gosport, C): The initial response of the United States Government may have given the impression to the Argentine leaders and the world that there is some justice in the Argentine case.

It is incumbent on the United States to make clear now that it supports our attitude in resisting aggression. That will assist the Argentine leaders and people to realize their true position.

Mrs Thatcher: We have the total support of the United States which we would expect and always expected to have. I doubt whether the whole country would wish to see this — that there will be no deliberate escalation of military action (Labour cheers) — escalation which could injure the prospects which appear to be much more hopeful of getting peace in this area?

Mrs Thatcher: He asked about the Secretary General's proposals. It is for the Secretary General to say what they are. We do not know much of a framework and no specific details are attached.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.

Mr Walker: We are continuing to consider what action is required. Mr Eddle: The commitments now given by the Labour Party to nationalize all tenanted farm land with minimal compensation will dry up the supply of farms. There is a need to continue the dialogue to explore ways of finding farms and smallholdings to let on terms and conditions and rent which will meet the approval of landowners and tenants alike.

Mr Walker: Yes, after all these years of reiterated land nationalization proposals, it is surprising and perhaps electorally pleasing that the Labour Party in its present form continues with the outdated and useless suggestion.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.

Mr Walker: We are continuing to consider what action is required. Mr Eddle: The commitments now given by the Labour Party to nationalize all tenanted farm land with minimal compensation will dry up the supply of farms. There is a need to continue the dialogue to explore ways of finding farms and smallholdings to let on terms and conditions and rent which will meet the approval of landowners and tenants alike.

Mr Walker: Yes, after all these years of reiterated land nationalization proposals, it is surprising and perhaps electorally pleasing that the Labour Party in its present form continues with the outdated and useless suggestion.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.

Mr Walker: We are continuing to consider what action is required. Mr Eddle: The commitments now given by the Labour Party to nationalize all tenanted farm land with minimal compensation will dry up the supply of farms. There is a need to continue the dialogue to explore ways of finding farms and smallholdings to let on terms and conditions and rent which will meet the approval of landowners and tenants alike.

Mr Walker: Yes, after all these years of reiterated land nationalization proposals, it is surprising and perhaps electorally pleasing that the Labour Party in its present form continues with the outdated and useless suggestion.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.

Mr Walker: We are continuing to consider what action is required. Mr Eddle: The commitments now given by the Labour Party to nationalize all tenanted farm land with minimal compensation will dry up the supply of farms. There is a need to continue the dialogue to explore ways of finding farms and smallholdings to let on terms and conditions and rent which will meet the approval of landowners and tenants alike.

Mr Walker: Yes, after all these years of reiterated land nationalization proposals, it is surprising and perhaps electorally pleasing that the Labour Party in its present form continues with the outdated and useless suggestion.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food, said during questions in the Commons.

Mr John Eddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C) asked if Mr Walker would bring forward proposals to reform the law of agricultural holdings for the specific purpose of stimulating the granting of new farm tenancies.



Cox: No escalation

In Buenos Aires and said that diplomatic channels were now closed.

That same Government refused the plea of the British people in that there must be no escalation of military activity on the Falkland Islands issue. (Conservative interruption)

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab): The growing view expressed by the British people is that there must be no escalation of military activity on the Falkland Islands issue. (Conservative interruption)

Mrs Thatcher prepared totally to repudiate those Conservative MFs and retired admirals and to say that, if need be, attacks must take place against the mainland of Argentina?

Nothing would give more distress to a negotiated settlement or for the United Nations than that kind of action. (Labour cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Cox refers to no escalation, but escalation while negotiations were taking place was by the Argentine in the invasion and there has been escalation ever since.

In the meantime our British people remain on the islands in a state of siege. Mr Foot said on an earlier occasion, "brutal and foul aggression".

We must continue with our military activities. Again, it would be too easy to say that there should be no military activities during negotiations.

And what would happen? If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?



Viggers: American attitude

Mr J Page (Harrow, West, C) earlier asked will she find a few moments to listen to the radio and catch television and judge for herself if she feels that the British case on the Falklands is being presented in a way likely to confidence to our friends overseas and support and encouragement to our servicemen and their devoted families? (Conservative cheers)

Mrs Thatcher: Judging by many of the comments I have heard from people who watch and listen more than I do, many people are very, very concerned indeed that the case for our British forces is not being put over fully and effectively.

I understand there are times when it would seem that we and the Argentines are almost being treated as equal and most on an equal basis. I understand there are occasions when some commentators will say "if the British do something".

If this is so, it gives offence and causes great confusion among many people. (Conservative cheers)

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab): The House of Commons was entitled to a factor in the Government's thinking and not just convened to discuss it when military and diplomatic events elsewhere make it convenient.

If the United Nations is to take over the Falklands after our men have died, why can we not debate this now before more men are killed?

Mr Biffen said he had indicated what further prospects there were for a debate.

Mr John Biffen, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, in response to a question from Mr Foot, made it clear that he would arrange for a further debate or statement next week if the events in the South Atlantic made either necessary.

# Controversy at Epsom Downs over regulation of riding

## HOUSE OF LORDS

Due to increased pressure on the Epsom and Walton Downs, the promoters of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Bill felt it was necessary to have some greater control over owner back riding. Lord Hensley (C), said, when moving the second reading of the Bill in the House of Lords. The Bill's promoters, Epsom and Walton District Council, seek powers to regulate hacks on the Downs.

He said the Bill was intended to replace the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1936, which set out the rights of the public to air and exercise over the Downs. The new Bill was more or less on the same lines, including any changes deemed necessary by the passing of time, and what might be necessary in the future. A balance had to be struck between the conflicting interests of the users of the Downs.

Epsom had a world-wide reputation as a training centre and racing centre. Epsom and Walton District Council regarded it as their most famous industry which provided considerable local employment.

Undermining the importance of employment, the promoters were seeking powers to regulate back riding, feeling that the continuation of training at Epsom would be in jeopardy. It could be argued that racing at Epsom itself would be threatened.

The promoters were anxious that back riding, and particularly the Derby — Britain's most celebrated race — and training should be preserved, not merely as a training centre for the racing industry but in the interests of the rest of the community.

Training was important to Epsom for employment. No one wanted to see training disappearing and it would result in loss of jobs. Trainers paid large sums to maintain gallops and training areas over the Downs. Some of the gallops were public.

This was not a dispute purely between the liberties of back riders and the alleged privileges of the racing industry. The rights of the public to use the Downs should be considered.

He was not opposed to an instruction put on the order paper by Lord Melchett that the Committee considering the Bill should satisfy itself that it was in the public interest that the right of the public to have access to the Downs should be curtailed as proposed in the Bill.

But he preferred an amendment to Lord Melchett's instruction, to be moved by Lord Wigg, that the promoters of the Bill should satisfy themselves that the use of the Downs for all users were recognized, but that at the same time the promoters should be required to consider the racing at Epsom and in particular the maintenance of the Derby and the preservation of Epsom as a training centre for race horses was safeguarded.

Lord Melchett (Lab) said the promoters of the Bill were that the restricted rights of access to those on foot only, by removing the general right of access, subject to the safeguards to be provided by the promoters, placed on horseback. It was an important matter of public interest and it would be useful for the Committee to give particular attention to it.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

Those who objected to this change said it was unacceptable that a public statutory right to ride at will over the Downs should be endangered for permission to ride on certain tracks and areas only.

It was detrimental to the conservation of the Downs to restrict and channel riders into particular narrow tracks used by a large number of riders, including race horses and hunters, and to damage the surface of the Downs and was in nobody's interests.

The effect of his instruction was to place the matter under debate but to underline the importance of the point.

It would become a criminal offence for people on horses to ride at will over the Downs, where previously they had a common law right and latterly a statutory right to do so.

Lord Wigg (Lab) said that if Epsom ceased to be a training centre it would be the end of the Derby, the most important race in the world.

He moved an amendment to Lord Melchett's instruction providing that the requirements of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1936, dealing with the rights of the public over the Downs, to preserve and control the use of the Downs for all users, were recognized, but that, at the same time, the continuance of racing at Epsom, and in particular the maintenance of Epsom as a training centre for race horses was safeguarded.

Lord Wigg said that Lord Melchett was asserting that there was an explicit right at all times which should be continued for back riders to go where they liked, when they liked and how they liked.

If the Bill was given a second reading and his amendment was accepted, it would establish the rights of the trainers under properly controlled conditions of training and racing would continue, and money would be available for the development and conservation of the Downs free of any charge upon the public.

There were about 400 race horses at Epsom. A considerable capital outlay had been undertaken to improve the quality of the gallops.

You cannot have said all weather gallops being used by valuable racehorses, running within a few inches of the people on horseback. That is to invite disaster.

Lord Crawshaw (Lab) said all the Bill was doing was to put on the statute book something going on at present. The main reason among those engaged in equestrian pursuits was fundamental. There was no reason to see a conflict between the equestrian interests.

Epsom was in the top five or six training centres in the country. The training of horses (he said) is a precise science. You would not expect Sebastian Coe to do his training anywhere else.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals set out in the Bill to control the access of horse riders. It was content for matters concerning the management of the Downs to be considered in committee, when the promoters and petitioners could put forward their views in detail and the case could be made for or against the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time.

Lord Wigg's amendment was carried by 59. Lord Melchett's instruction, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals set out in the Bill to control the access of horse riders. It was content for matters concerning the management of the Downs to be considered in committee, when the promoters and petitioners could put forward their views in detail and the case could be made for or against the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time.

Lord Wigg's amendment was carried by 59. Lord Melchett's instruction, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals set out in the Bill to control the access of horse riders. It was content for matters concerning the management of the Downs to be considered in committee, when the promoters and petitioners could put forward their views in detail and the case could be made for or against the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time.

Lord Wigg's amendment was carried by 59. Lord Melchett's instruction, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals set out in the Bill to control the access of horse riders. It was content for matters concerning the management of the Downs to be considered in committee, when the promoters and petitioners could put forward their views in detail and the case could be made for or against the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time.

Lord Wigg's amendment was carried by 59. Lord Melchett's instruction, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals set out in the Bill to control the access of horse riders. It was content for matters concerning the management of the Downs to be considered in committee, when the promoters and petitioners could put forward their views in detail and the case could be made for or against the Bill.

The Bill was read a second time.

Lord Wigg's amendment was carried by 59. Lord Melchett's instruction, thus amended, was agreed to.

The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals

## FALKLANDS CRISIS / 1

## Gaps in air cover gave Sheffield only a few seconds

Criticism by Mr John Lehman, United States Navy Secretary, of the lack of air cover over the British task force was causing some worry yesterday among Fleet Air Arm, which lost its battle to retain big fixed-wing carriers in the Royal Navy 16 years ago.

With the defence in depth provided by one of the huge American nuclear-powered carriers, like the Eisenhower or Nimitz, the Argentine Super Etendard and its Exocet missiles would never have got within range of the destroyer HMS Sheffield.

Airborne Early Warning (AEW) aircraft from the carrier would have detected the Etendard and its electronic warfare planes would have jammed its radar and F4 Tomcats with their Phoenix missiles would have shot it down.

Rear Admiral John Woodward's task force in the South Atlantic has still about

19 Sea Harrier aircraft whose Sidewinder missiles have already demonstrated their ability to deal with encroaching aircraft if they are given enough time to scramble — and evidence suggests that at least one of the carriers was near enough for the Harriers with their 250-mile radius of action to have been effective.

What the task force lacked, however, were AEW aircraft — like the old propeller-driven Gannet which used to fly from the fixed wing carriers like Ark Royal and Eagle and which by patrolling ahead of the task force could have looked far beyond the horizon and given the Harrier squadrons that precious time.

Nor would there be space on the Hermes and certainly not on Invincible to operate AEW alternatives like the Grumman Hawkeye which is in service still with the US fleet.

The advantages of AEW

were first appreciated in the Second World War when air forces working for the first time with radar soon began to realize how the earth's curvature could limit its effectiveness. Its importance in an age of jet aircraft and supersonic missiles was illustrated by the account given by Captain Sam Salt of the Sheffield who said later that his crew had had only a few seconds' warning before the missile struck.

Fear that the Soviet Union in wartime would attack Britain — and Western Europe — by flying in waves of low-altitude bombers, ducking behind ground-based radar sets, has made land-based AEW a top priority for Nato. After much argument over who would pay how much, Nato countries finally agreed to finance a force of 18 Boeing AWACS aircraft which, based at Geilenkirchen, West Germany, will be able to cruise at around

30,000 and peer up to 300 miles over the horizon.

Britain, fed up by waiting for its Nato partners to make up their minds, went ahead on its own and commissioned 11 new British Aerospace Nimrod AEW aircraft — a variant of the successful Nimrod maritime reconnaissance planes — which will do a similar job over the North Sea integrating with the other AWACS force to the South. (A memorandum of understanding formalizing the integration of the two forces was by coincidence signed in Brussels the day after the Sheffield was hit.)

This is cold comfort for Admiral Woodward. The Nimrod AEW machines do not enter service until next year — those Nimrods now operating from Ascension Island are said to be only maritime reconnaissance machines, optimised for surveying the surface of the sea

and seeking submarines beneath it.

Even when they do come into service the Nimrod AEW planes would find it hard to operate above the task force. Although their performance characteristics have not been published they are thought to be similar to those of the AWACS which can remain at base. But Ascension Island is 3,500 miles away, which would seem to make continuous land-based AEW surveillance over the fleet impracticable.

Without any big carriers, shipborne AEW or land-based AEW aircraft to extend his antennae what else can Admiral Woodward do? Some industrial sources yesterday were complaining that if the Government had not given the radar contract for the new lightweight Seawolf to Marconi, the Navy would have been able to use the

Dutch Signal radar (which is ready for use) and installed the anti-missile missile — optimised to deal with sea-skimming missiles — much earlier than is now likely. Certainly there will be pressure to speed up and extend the Sea Wolf programme.

But again this is not likely to comfort the task force as it weighs up the options following the Sheffield disaster. The most likely conclusion they will come to is that whatever happens to the diplomatic process, they should avoid exposing their ships unnecessarily to Argentine aircraft and missile-firing vessels until the container ship Atlantic Conveyor arrives with 20 more Harriers. These will not provide a complete answer to the problem of how to win air supremacy but they might contribute towards it.

Henry Stanhope

## Nott insists EEC and Nato still behind UK

From Ian Murray, Brussels, May 6

Nato and the EEC remain solidly behind Britain in its efforts to force Argentina to withdraw its troops from the Falkland Islands, according to Mr John Nott, the British Minister of Defence.

In a tough, uncompromising statement issued after a session with the Nato defence minister here, Mr Nott promised that Britain's efforts to find a peaceful solution would not falter but that a precondition was Argentine withdrawal in accordance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 502.

"If we have a ceasefire without Argentine withdrawal," he said, "democracy will have surrendered to aggression and the aggressor will be in possession of his spoils."

The was no hint in what Mr Nott had to say of any slacking of support for Britain. He was "greatly heartened" by a statement issued in the morning by the Nato Eurogroup (the 12 European members of the alliance) which condemned Argentina's armed invasion and failure to comply with the Security Council resolution; noted the importance of maintaining the principle that aggression or occupation of territory should not be allowed to succeed and urged the need to seek a negotiated settlement.

In answer to questions, he later said he felt confident that there would be a renewal of sanctions against Argentina by the EEC if they were needed. The sanctions came up for renewal on May 17 and Mr Nott said he hoped that a solution would be possible before then.

He would not be drawn into any discussion on the long term solution beyond saying it was recognized in London that there might have to be a transitional arrangement after the Argentine withdrawal.

The economic sanctions together with the naval pressure, he said, "provided the only hope of bringing about a peaceful and long term solution which preserves the important principles for which the Western alliance stands."

Questioned later on this, he said: "My own belief is that there will not be a solution to this crisis if Britain is not prepared to keep up pressure to pursue its military presence. We are dealing with a military junta and so far — I emphasize so far — there has been no evidence that they understand anything but strength."



Nott: uncompromising

## Diplomatic flurry

## Allies' pessimism worries Whitehall

By David Cross and Denis Taylor

The British Government has responded to the growing concern among its American and European allies about the recent clashes around the Falklands by assuring them that a peaceful settlement is still its main priority.

While officially claiming that they remain unperturbed by pessimistic voices from European capitals, particularly Bonn, after the sinking of the Argentine cruiser, Whitehall officials must have been deeply concerned by the apparent weakening of support for Britain's case.

But they were greatly heartened yesterday by the strong backing from Britain's European partners in Nato. A communiqué issued by European defence ministers emphasized "the importance of maintaining the principle that aggression or occupation of territory by force should not be allowed to succeed."

One Whitehall official argued that all West European countries, including Britain, were bound to have problems with public opinion once the sinking of the cruiser had broken out. But, he said, this was insufficient reason for the British Government to be deflected from its resolve to ensure that an aggressor did not keep his spoils.

Diplomatic activity to try to resolve the conflict without more loss of life was speeded up yesterday in various capitals of the Americas. In Lima, the Peruvians were urged by Britain to step

up their lobbying in Buenos Aires. The British were asking the Peruvians to use their good offices to persuade Argentina to accept a temporary set of proposals which had the full backing of the United States.

The latest suggestions, which were regarded as important in London, were said to cover three essential points — the mechanics of an Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands; the establishment of an interim administration with some international participation; and negotiations for a long-term solution to the dispute without prejudging the question of sovereignty.

The proposals originated with President Belaunde Terry of Peru and were subsequently refined by Mr Alexander Haig, the American secretary of state. Mr Francis Pym, the British Foreign Secretary, has also contributed ideas to the package, which is said to be much simpler than that originally floated by Mr Haig during his first peace mission.

The United States and Britain have felt the need to use the good offices of the Peruvians since Washington came down firmly on the side of Britain last week. It was still not clear yesterday how effective their intervention might be in Buenos Aires.

The latest flurry of diplomatic activity was described in Whitehall yesterday as crucial.

Support for the Government's handling of the Falklands crisis has dropped this week, according to a MORI poll conducted for The Economist and released yesterday.

Only 71 per cent of the sample said they were satisfied with Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her colleagues' handling of the crisis, compared with 76 per cent last week. Twenty five per cent are now dissatisfied compared with 20 per cent last week.

News of the destruction of the destroyer Sheffield came while the poll was being

## UN initiative

## Major obstacles still unresolved

From Zofia Frysak, New York, May 6

The positive response from both Britain and Argentina to the framework for peace in the Falkland Islands put forward by Señor Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, acknowledged a possible settlement, but does not bring prospects closer for an immediate solution to the crisis.

In their acceptance of the Secretary-General's "good offices" the governments of Britain and Argentina today failed to resolve major differences over the crucial issues of ceasefire, withdrawal and sovereignty, making it clear that Señor Pérez de Cuellar will have to surmount major obstacles if he is to succeed in his peace effort.

British sources say that the United Nations ideas offer no more than a skeletal outline of ways the United Nations might be useful in bringing about an end to the crisis which need to be filled in as the Secretary-General proceeds with his efforts. They appear at the moment to offer only a face-saving mechanism should the two parties agree the time is ripe for a settlement, and officials do not rule out the possibility that they could be dovetailed with plans presented made by Peru, or any number of peace proposals.

The United Nations proposals include, in general terms, provisions for withdrawal by the British Fleet and Argentine troops from the Falklands to be possibly overseen by United Nations peace-keepers or observers, negotiations on ultimate sovereignty over the islands under United Nations auspices, and a United Nations administration on the islands while talks continue. They are strikingly similar to the Peruvian proposals, but diplomats feel that a United Nations framework for peace is more beneficial to Argentina than to Britain.

This is because any initiative which springs from the Western hemisphere involving OAS powers, be they Peru or the United States, is more likely to produce quick

results. An initiative taken up by the United Nations, has the risk of becoming mired in the different political shadings that are an integral part of the United Nations and this could in itself be a major obstacle.

British sources, however, do say that Argentina only has to say it is ready to withdraw and abandon its insistence that sovereignty be predetermined for the Secretary-General's initiative to succeed.

It would then be possible to fill in the framework that would spell out the modalities of withdrawal, the terms of an interim administration and the long term United Nations involvement in negotiations over sovereignty.

Meanwhile Britain has delivered its formal response to Señor Pérez de Cuellar and a spokesman said that the absence of armed exchanges in the previous 24 hours was an encouraging sign for the diplomatic efforts now underway.

Although Argentina's reaction yesterday had raised hopes of a breakthrough. It was clear that the Argentine Government in its reply was even less specific than Britain. Before handing over the response from the British government, Sir Anthony Parsons, the British delegate, told reporters, the reply was substantial and constructive.

"It addresses all the Secretary-General's ideas in substance," he said.

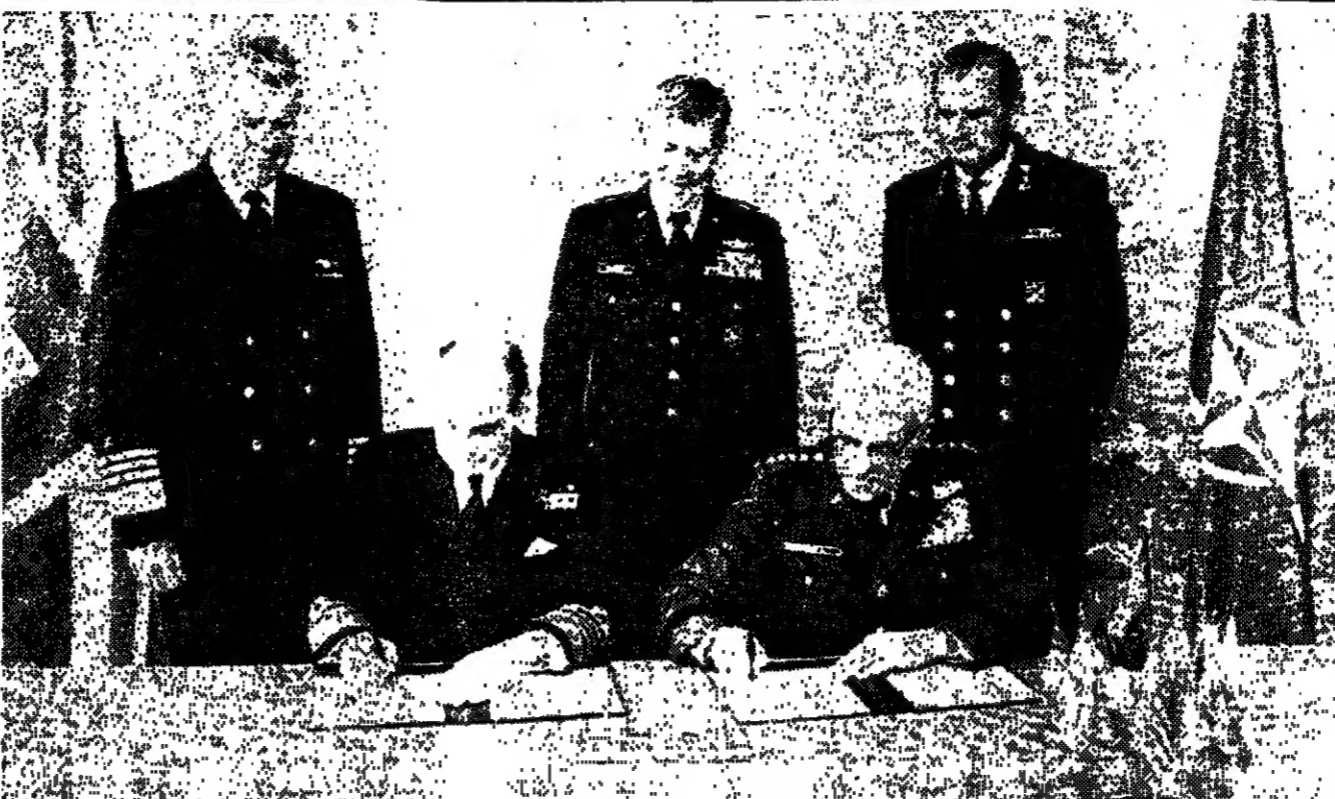
Argentina is understood to have given a brief response, accepting in principle the Secretary-General's role. But deciding against commenting specifically on the various ideas.

With the acceptance of both sides, the Security Council has gone into private consultations to pick up where they left off yesterday.

Irish, which had requested a meeting, now appears to have backedtracked and sources say it realises a call for a ceasefire would only play into the hands of Argentina.

The Finanz und Wirtschaft said: "The sense of proportion Churchill advocated seems to have been lost."

At Brussels: The European Parliament's 124-member Socialist group has called for an immediate Falklands ceasefire and a negotiated settlement based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 502.



Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin (left) Chief of the Defence Staff and General Bernard Rogers, Nato's European commander, sign the memorandum of understanding that integrates 11 Nimrod aircraft into Nato's early warning forces. Looking on (left to right) are United States Admiral Harry Train, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; USAF Major-General Leighton Palmerton, NAEW Commander, and Netherlands Vice Admiral J. H. Scheuer, representing the Commander-in-Chief, Channel.

## MoD gives reasons for hold-ups

By Stewart Tendler

The report of the Board of Inquiry set up on South Georgia to look into the circumstances of the death of an Argentine after the capture of the island is on its way back to Britain, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday.

A spokesman said no comment could be made about the inquiry until the papers reached Whitehall. The dead man, believed to be a sailor, was buried in Grytviken cemetery. Also on their way back to Britain are pictures of the recent actions at sea and the first attack on Port Stanley airfield.

The Ministry of Defence has been criticized for allowing the Argentines to get widespread newspaper and television coverage of their own pictures which accompanied claims that the runway at Port Stanley airfield had not been damaged.

Yesterday the ministry said that no pictures had arrived from either South Georgia, retaken almost two weeks ago, or the main task force. Pictures taken by official photographers and the Press Association have to be sent to Ascension Island 4,000 miles from the Falklands and then flown back to Britain.

At the moment ships were engaged in operational tasks, the ministry said. "Operational pictures had arrived in London, but these were used for intelligence purposes and were not normally released. Newspapers have also found that reports from their correspondents are being delayed by defence officials."

Another possible attack. The rather chilling one which has been thought of but not yet used is "hit the deck", which means an imminent hit by missile or torpedo.

The cruise has become infectious with announcements of action missing, action snacks, action mugs and action working dress. The cruise has become infectious with announcements of action missing, action snacks, action mugs and action working dress.

All this makes the cock-tails on the quarterdeck in the tropics seem another existence. That same quarterdeck of the Invincible is now swept by sleet and spray and piled high with cushions from the officers' wardroom, ready for ditching overboard to reduce the risk of fire.

From the admiral's bridge the flight deck presents an equally desolate scene. Sea Harriers, the pilots strapped into the cockpits, sit waiting for orders to scramble and

## Three essential elements Peru's solution called for 72-hour truce

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, May 6

The central feature of the Peruvian peace initiative for resolving the Falklands crisis — which at present appears to be the front-runner in various diplomatic solutions — is a call for an immediate 72-hour truce, according to Señor Fernando Schwalb, the Peruvian Ambassador in Washington and the country's first Vice-President.

A truce would be followed by a withdrawal of Argentine and British forces from the area after which negotiations would be held on the ultimate status of the islands. The negotiations would probably be held under United Nations auspices.

The main priority is to arrange a ceasefire," Señor Schwalb told The Times in an interview. "Once there is peace one can start to talk about the substance of the problem."

After initial disinterest, the British are now taking considerable interest in the proposals which President Belaunde Terry first submitted last weekend. The British said that the Peruvian plan, which is more general and contains fewer details than the proposals put forward by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, includes the three elements which the British regards as essential for a peaceful settlement.

These are: A withdrawal of forces; an interim administration with international participation; and negotiations to take place without prejudging the sovereignty issue.

Intercept Argentine jets. Figures buffeted by an icy wind and wearing combat clothing and Balacava helmets struggle to refuel and tend to the valuable machines which form such a vital part of the task force's protective screen.

Across on the Hermes, which flies the flag of Rear-Admiral John Woodward, the current situation must seem as tricky as some of the mathematical problems he solves for a hobby. The attack on the Sheffield has demonstrated the capabilities of the Argentine Air Force and served as a warning to Royal Navy warships which venture too close to the islands.

While control of the sea seems feasible, despite the Argentine submarines possibly to be in the area, dominating the skies against a numerically superior enemy could prove one of the hardest problems of the war.

## Tory MPs say hit air bases

By George Clark

More than 20 Conservative backbenchers, including several senior members of the party, tabled a Commons motion yesterday calling for "whatever measures should prove necessary" to eliminate the capacity of the Argentine forces to inflict unacceptable losses on the British fleet, the obvious implication is that air bases on the Argentine mainland should be bombed to remove the threat of missile or bomb attacks from the air.

The motion was tabled by Mr Ian Lloyd, chairman of the Select Committee on Energy and MP for Havant and Waterlooville, near Portsmouth. Its sponsors include Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud), chairman of the Select Committee on Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; Sir William Clark (Croydon, South), chairman of the backbenchers' finance committee; Sir Patrick Wall (Haltwhistle) a former officer or the party's defence committee, and Sir Frederick Bennett (Torbay).

The motion commends the efforts of the Government to persuade the international community that it cannot ensure if the unilateral use of force to achieve national objectives is tolerated. It then points out that "some elements in that community" have never accepted that the use of force is not to be used to achieve national objectives.

The proposed ceasefire would be in two stages. The first stage would last 24 hours and would allow both sides time to inform their forces to stop shooting. The second would last for 48 hours during which time, it is hoped, arrangements could be made for a withdrawal of forces.

It goes on: "This House... concludes that the capture of the Falklands now justifies whatever immediate measures should prove necessary to eliminate the capacity of Argentine forces to inflict unacceptable losses on the British fleet and notes that [the Government's] objectives have not changed their character or justification since it obtained the virtually unanimous support of Parliament for its Falklands Islands policy."

The call for necessary measures comes immediately after a reference to the attack on HMS Sheffield which was hit by a French-built Exocet missile believed to have been fired from a Super-Standard aircraft operating from a land base.

The list of signatories includes Mr George Gardiner (Reigate), Mr James Hill (Southampton, Test), Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge), Mr Peter Lloyd (Farnham), Mr Trevor Skeet (Bedford), Mr Tony Marlow (Northampton, West), Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West), Mr Neil Thorn (Redbridge, Eford, South), Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Brington), Mr Percy Gieve (Solihull), Mr David Evans (Yarley), Mr Mark Wolfson (Sevenoaks), Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds), Mr Geoffrey Dickson (Huddersfield, West), Mr Paul Hawkins (Worcester, South West) and Mr John Hannan (Exeter). More signatures were being added last night.

## World's opinion

The Pope sent a message to Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-General, yesterday encouraging his efforts to settle the Falklands crisis, Renter reports from Rome.

A telegram signed by cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican Secretary of State, said the Pope was deeply worried about "the tragic news from the South Atlantic, where the military conflict is ever worsening."

The telegram said that the Pope hoped that the United Nations action would receive "a favourable reception" from Britain and Argentina and was "ardently praying" for this aim.

Geneva: Swiss newspapers have criticized British reac-

tion to the Falklands invasion, and Mr Rudolf Gnagel, the former Defence Minister, told the Zurich Blick: "The English are fully in the right, but one thing is absolutely certain: they will lose the Falklands to the Argentines in case. What happens now has become a matter of prestige to England."

The Finanz und Wirtschaft said: "The sense of proportion Churchill advocated seems to have been lost."

At Brussels: The European Parliament's 124-member Socialist group has called for an immediate Falklands ceasefire and a negotiated settlement based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 502.

## Bean eaters earn the fleet's respect

From John Witherow, on board HMS Invincible

One of the first reactions to the news of the destruction of the Sheffield came from a shrewd petty officer: "Everyone thought we were taking on a bunch of bean eaters but now they realize they are up against a well equipped outfit," he said.

While many would claim they never underestimated the Argentines, there has undoubtedly been a growing feeling of confidence in the task force which received a sharp jolt from Tuesday's losses.

The surprise attack in which Super-Standard jets evaded the fleet's defences has shaken any complacency about the competence of Argentina's Air Force.

The attack showed considerable planning, skill and knowledge of the position of the fleet and an ability to respond rapidly to the British successes of previous days, including the sinking of a cruiser. One Harrier pilot on Invincible, talking about the shooting down of a colleague

from the Hermes over the Falklands, commented: "These guys are a lot better than we gave them credit for."

Because of the setbacks, Invincible went on action stations from dawn to dusk the next day. The ship now more or less lives for action stations, aware that vigilance can mean survival in this increasingly vicious and complicated battle in the South Atlantic. The aircraft carrier is sealed up and at full alert for long periods, with the boredom of acute alarm.

This undoubtedly reached its zenith on Tuesday, when it was announced over the radio that the ship was under missile attack. The group of journalists on board, who had taken to the admiral's bridge with the misguided view that it is as good a place as any and at least possible to see the missiles coming, flattened

themselves on the deck along with everyone else.

The comment from a nearby crewman that "if it hits you won't know anything about it" was far from reassuring. When an anti-missile screen was fired from the ship, sounding remarkably like near-misses, various comments in our notebooks included "terrifying" and "periods of anxiety."

The sense of vulnerability is impossible to avoid because of the confinement in close quarters and the relative lack of protection provided by the hull. Modern warships do not have armour plating, unlike the old battle-ships, taking the view that the money is better spent on effective missile defences.

Apart from the klaxon which heralds action stations, the other dreaded and increasingly frequent announcement is "on anti-flash", signalling the need to cover bare skin because of

another possible attack. The rather chilling one which has been thought of but not yet used is "hit the deck", which means an imminent hit by missile or torpedo.

The cruise has become infectious with announcements of action missing, action snacks, action mugs and action working dress. The cruise has become infectious with announcements of action missing, action snacks, action mugs and action working dress.

All this makes the cock-tails on the quarterdeck in the tropics seem another existence. That same quarterdeck of the Invincible is now swept by sleet and spray and piled high with cushions from the officers' wardroom, ready for ditching overboard to reduce the risk of fire.

From the admiral's bridge the flight deck presents an equally desolate scene. Sea Harriers, the pilots strapped into the cockpits, sit waiting for orders to scramble and

intercept Argentine jets. Figures buffeted by an icy wind and wearing combat clothing and Balacava helmets struggle to refuel and tend to the valuable machines which form such a vital part of the task force's protective screen.

Across on the Hermes, which flies the flag of Rear-Admiral John Woodward, the current situation must seem as tricky as some of the mathematical problems he solves for a hobby. The attack on the Sheffield has demonstrated the capabilities of the Argentine Air Force and served as a warning to Royal Navy warships which venture too close to the islands.

While control of the sea seems feasible, despite the Argentine submarines possibly to be in the area, dominating the skies against a numerically superior enemy could prove one of the hardest problems of the war.

Intercept Argentine jets. Figures buffeted by an icy wind and wearing combat clothing and Balacava helmets struggle to refuel and tend to the valuable machines which form such a vital part of the task force's protective screen.

Across on the Hermes, which flies the flag of Rear-Admiral John Woodward, the current situation must seem as tricky as some of the mathematical problems he solves for a hobby. The attack on the Sheffield has demonstrated the capabilities of the Argentine Air Force and served as a warning to Royal Navy warships which venture too close to the islands.

While control of the sea seems feasible, despite the Argentine submarines possibly to be in the area, dominating the skies against a numerically superior enemy could prove one of the hardest problems of the war.

## FALKLANDS CRISIS/2

## Argentine losses are greater

By David Cross

In the month since the invasion of the Falklands, various battles and other incidents have already cost both Argentina and Britain many casualties. Exactly how many is impossible to calculate at this stage, largely because battle claims from Buenos Aires are so unreliable.

It is almost certainly the case, however, that more Argentines have died and suffered injuries than Britons. The following account of events gives some idea of losses on both sides to date.

April 2. The Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands cost Buenos Aires the life of at least one officer. Mr Rex Hunt, the Governor of the Falklands, claimed that at least five, and possibly 15 Argentines were killed and another 17 wounded in the battle. Both the British and Argentine Governments agreed that there were no British casualties.

April 3. Argentina said that three of its men died in its invasion of South Georgia but a young British officer claimed that between 10 and 15 Argentine commandos were killed and at least 20 more wounded by his men. There were no British losses.

April 23. A British crewman on board a Sea King helicopter was drowned during an exercise as the task force steamed into increasingly rough weather in the South Atlantic.

April 25. During the battle to retake South Georgia, only one casualty was reported by the British. This was an Argentine sailor on board the submarine Santa Fe, who suffered a severe leg injury. The Argentine authorities claimed that British troops suffered dozens of casualties in the operation.

April 26. One of the Argentine prisoners in South Georgia being held by the British died in what was described as a "serious incident".

May 1. The British bombing of Port Stanley in the Falklands cost an unknown number of Argentine lives. President Galtieri admitted only that many lives had been lost during the hostilities up to this date. The British claimed that two Argentine Mirages and one Argentine Canberra had been shot down.

One British seaman, Ian Britnell of Teignmouth, Devon, was wounded when he was struck in the chest by shrapnel on board one of the ships of the task force. The Argentine admitted that two of their Mirages had been lost.

May 2 and 3. An unknown number of Argentine lives were lost when the Argentine cruiser, General Belgrano, was hit by British torpedoes.

May 4. Twenty officers and men on board the British destroyer Sheffield were missing, presumed dead when it was hit by an Argentine Exocet anti-ship missile. The pilot of a British Sea Harrier died when his aircraft was shot down during new raids on Port Stanley airport. Argentine casualties in the fresh fighting in the airfield are still unknown.

## Weapons firms certain to profit

By Clive Cookson

Whatever the Falklands outcome, Britain's weapons manufacturing business will benefit, judging from the London Stock Exchange, where share prices of companies with defence interests have on the whole outperformed the market over the past month.

The argument, in oversimplified form, is that if Britain comes out on top the country will be in a more militaristic mood and the Government will increase defence spending at a faster rate than the 3 per cent a year to which it is already committed. And if the worst happens there will be a requirement to replace hundreds of millions of pounds worth of lost equipment, and probably political pressure to make up inadequacies in Britain's defences.

Five large companies dominate Britain's electronic weapons industry: British Aerospace, GEC (including Marconi), Ferranti, Plessey and Racal. The sector was concentrated further last month when British Aerospace bought Sperry Gyroscopes, the navigation, mines and underwater warfare specialist, for £45m.

In 1981 BAe sold £751m worth of military aircraft and £346m worth of guided weapons out of a total turnover of £1,660m. Sales of civil aircraft were worth only £332m, and on the whole, the military side of the business is more profitable than making airlines.

BAe manufactures the Sea Harriers, on which the Falklands task force depends for air cover, and the guided weapons (including the ship-launched Sea Dart and Sea Wolf) and the helicopter-launched Sea Skua that are its most modern firepower.

Like the other weapons manufacturers, BAe will not comment officially on the likely effect of the Falklands conflict on its order book. "It wouldn't be proper to say anything at the moment," a spokesman said.

GEC-Marconi is the leading supplier of guidance systems for the BAe missiles and the radar equipment with which the task force tracks Argentine aircraft and ships. The main hardware manufactured by Marconi is the Tigerfish torpedo fitted to the task force submarines. One torpedo can cost nearly £50,000.

Warships are built for the Navy by the state-owned British Shipbuilders at yards which still bear the names of their former private owners such as Vickers, Vosper Thornycroft, and Yarlow. Last year the Government announced that there would be no more orders for Type 42 destroyers (the class to which HMS Sheffield belonged) but the Yarlow yard on Clydeside recently won a £120m contract for a Type 23 frigate.

British Shipbuilders had warned their workers that up to 25,000 jobs would be lost because of the naval cuts planned by the Government before the Falklands crisis. It is now like Barrow, where warship building is a leading occupation, that may see a slim silver lining in the South Atlantic war clouds.

## Search for compromise

## Reagan budget clears its first hurdle

From Bailey Morris, Washington, May 6

President Reagan has cleared the first important hurdle in his second drive to achieve a budget compromise by mobilizing Senate Republicans behind a new 1983 federal spending package approved by the budget committee late last night.

The new Republican budget, which projects a reduced deficit of \$105,000m (€58,000m) for the fiscal year 1983, was hammered out at a White House meeting between Mr Reagan's senior advisers and Senate leaders including Mr Howard Baker, the majority leader, and Mr Peter Domenici, chairman of the budget committee.

It would increase taxes by \$95,000m over a three-year period, reduce social security benefits by \$40,000m over the same period and cut Mr Reagan's big defence buildup moderately with total, three-year reductions of \$22,000m. Mr Reagan is announcing today his strong support of the new budget plan, immediately took the political offensive, telling reporters at the White House that the next step was up to congressional Democrats.

With their cooperation, Mr Reagan said the new spending plan "can put our country firmly on the road to economic prosperity" mainly by reassuring sceptical financial markets that the massive federal deficit will be reduced in 1983 and the year beyond.

Under the new programme which could be sent to the full Senate as early as next week, the deficits are projected at a high of \$105,000m in 1983 and dropping to \$70,000m in 1984 and \$42,000m in 1985.

Even at first glance, however, it was apparent that Mr

Reagan's new spending package faces a rough time in Congress among Republicans up for reelection and the Democratic Party generally.

In fact, the new proposal appeared to preserve a classic party struggle over domestic spending priorities. Its broad outline is much closer to Mr Reagan's original January budget which was overwhelmingly rejected by both parties than the compromise proposals he put forward in the recent, failed budget negotiations with Mr Thomas O'Neill, Democratic leader of the House.

It called for fewer cuts in defence spending than those agreed to earlier by Mr Reagan and Mr O'Neill and much steeper cuts in social programmes for the poor and elderly than any yet considered by congressional Democrats.

These positions alone are likely to create a new unity among the Democrats who plan to caucus their members this week with the aim of proposing and voting on a Democratic budget alternative by the end of next week.

The Democratic alternative is likely to include fewer cuts in social programmes, bigger increases in taxes than those supported by the President and much larger cuts in defence spending. "I think you'll see a basic philosophical difference reflected in the two new budget alternatives," said a member of the Democratic-controlled House budget committee.

This would dampen considerably the President's proposals of forging a coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats behind his new proposal.

## Bush assures Chinese over Taiwan dispute

May 6. — Mr George Bush, the American Vice-President, visiting China at a time when relations are strained over Taiwan, said tonight that areas of agreement and cooperation "far outweigh the few differences between us".

Mr Bush at his first formal function in China — a banquet given by Mr Li Peng, the Zhejiang province Governor — added: "that is the way it is and the way it must be among friends."

Mr Li said in his toast: "The Chinese and American peoples are friendly towards each other and both hope that obstacles in our bilateral relations will be surmounted so that our relations can continue to develop, because it is in the interests not only of our two peoples but also

of peace and stability in the world."

Mr Bush thanked the governor for his "words of encouragement and support".

China has demanded that Washington sets a date for halting arms sales to Taiwan, and the rival Nationalists, or face a retrogression in relations. It says the sales amount to a "two-China" policy.

In his speech, Mr Bush said President Reagan and his Administration "stand strongly" by the understanding that "there is but one China and that Taiwan is part of China".

Mr Bush is in Hangzhou for one day before going on to Peking. He has visited five other Asian and Pacific countries in 13 days.



Waiting for father: Mrs Danuta Walesa, the wife of the interned Solidarity leader, Lech Walesa, with two of her children, Magda (left) and Anna, in Gdansk.

## Poles pass liberal Bill

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, May 6

While Poland's attention was diverted by the soft thrust of tear gas canisters, the Polish Parliament this week quietly passed an astonishingly liberal Bill on higher education. Giving universities the right to elect their own rectors and control over much of the daily curriculum.

The Bill was part of a package of measures associated with national culture that was enacted by the Sejm (Parliament) on Tuesday.

According to one Sejm deputy, the way that the Bill was passed gives some clue as to the sensitivity of the legislation: "Towards the end of the session we started to vote on the culture accord and other things we had been discussing, including the higher education Bill. After the vote, my neighbour turned to me and asked: 'When are we going to decide about higher education?' We just have, I said. 'Good God' he said and left the chamber."

Until the text of the Bill is leaked in its entirety, it will be difficult to decide how many of the liberal components in the original draft — drawn up in the Solidarity era — have been retained. About 200 amendments had been tabled and were discussed for almost a year by two committees of parliament experts.

Even so, the main pillars of the original Bill have been retained, guaranteeing a remarkable degree of autonomy to the nine state universities. As originally planned, rectors can be elected by the universities themselves and

students are given the right to form their own student associations.

Admittedly below university level, many colleges will have to accept a curriculum defined by the ministry but the optional elements which often make up some 30 per cent of degree courses at polytechnics and elsewhere — can be drawn up by the colleges themselves. The faculty senates — the decision-making bodies in universities and college departments — remains much of their power, though in terms of nominating the rector (vice-chancellor) this is fairly evenly balanced with the Ministry of Higher Education.

Most Western diplomats and observers had predicted that this Bill would never be enacted for it seems to challenge many of the fundamental principles of martial law.

Thus some weeks ago Professor Henryk Samsonowicz, elected by staff and students as rector of Warsaw University, was dismissed. He was regarded as a liberal Marxist and was expelled from the Communist Party after the imposition of martial law amongst other things for allowing the now banned student association, NZS, to print leaflets on university presses.

This was seen by worried academics as the first step towards a purge of university life by those in the party who wanted to drive a wedge between the intellectuals and workers.

On May Day, as Solidarity activists tumbled through the

streets, they were chanting among the more predictable slogans: "Give us back our rector."

The new Bill may defuse this to some extent, and that clearly was one of the aims. It was never very realistic of the academic staff — as many admitted privately — to expect the Military Council to back down having ousted a rector.

But by the military conceding the principle of elected rectors, the academics may be prepared to agree to accept Professor Sobkowicz as an interim solution until elections can be held.

But the Military Council can also make time liberal concessions because of an important amendment to the new act. The so-called Advisory Council on Higher Education, a powerful force in drafting central directives on education, will now — as originally envisaged — be composed of 60 members of faculty senates (that is, elected representatives) but will contain 20 members nominated by the minister. This allows the ministry to counter situations through anti-liberal measures, if necessary.

In any case as long as martial law is in effect, the Army can easily ignore certain aspects of the higher education law. It will continue to ban NZS, for example. Military rule, however, whatever has been enacted. But the new act shows that the Military Council is prepared, when martial law has been lifted, to show at least some concessions to society to live and let live.

By the time the fighting came to an end, the Morabitoun machine-gunner had been blown clean out of his truck on to the road and he lay there for 10 minutes afterwards — and the Jumblattis claimed that between two and 10 gunmen had died.

For a few more minutes, ambulances drove frantically up and down the Corniche. A company of Syrian soldiers trundled by, their rifles and rifles pointing at the unfinished apartment block. Then Beirut's rowdy motorists returned to the Corniche and the street vendors counted their change.

The bloody little battle was all part of the fracturing of Lebanon's left-wing National Movement, a cleavage in Lebanon's socialist armies every bit as vicious as that which once tore apart the Christian militias in east Beirut. This summer's presidential elections are not far away and the promise of power usually brings out the guns in Beirut.

Rome youths hijack bus. — Four armed youths hijacked an airport bus taking passengers from a London flight to the centre of Rome and robbed the driver of five million lire (about £2,000), pulled pistols on the driver as he entered the Magliana suburb last night and ordered him to follow a waiting car. Passengers were ordered to hand over cash and valuables to the youths, who sped off in the car.

Waldheim run down by tram. — Dr Kurt Waldheim, the former United Nations Secretary-General, was knocked down by a tram and taken to hospital with concussion.

Austrian radio quoted him as saying he would have to stay in hospital for two or three days.

Border guard charged. — Brunswick's West German authorities charged an East German border guard with suspected murder yesterday, the day after he shot another border guard with a sub-machine gun and fled to the West.

Klaus Decker, aged 19, confessed to firing four shots with a sub-machine gun at his colleague before escaping over the border, according to a government press statement. The East German news agency ADN reported that the other border guard, Erhard Knoke, was "treacherously murdered" while "protecting the state border".

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of West German citizenship".

He did not mention that he was killed by another border guard.

East Germany has asked the West Germans to extradite Herr Decker. The West German Government said it was "dismayed" by the incident and the Brunswick authorities, who announced the charges against Herr Decker, said East Germany's extradition request was being "carefully examined".

But the Government's statement said that Herr Decker would have "all the rights of

Balcony seat at Corniche carnage

حزبنا الوطنى

## Terrorist killing stops work at Bilbao plant

From Harry Debelius Madrid, May 6

Basque terrorists determined to keep a nuclear power plant near Bilbao from operating accomplished their purpose, at least temporarily, today when employees of the company building the plant said they would not go back to work at the site, after the assassination of the chief engineer.

He was the sixth person to die in attacks involving the nearly completed installation. One technician who did not wish to be named, said "THE only way you could get me to go back to the Lemniz plant is to order me to go". The technician said he and other employees were under the obviously mistaken impression that the extremist organization E.T.A. (Basque home land and liberty) had secretly agreed to end its campaign against the nuclear power station, coinciding with the implementation of a plan for the home-ruled Government to take over operational responsibility from the privately-owned Electric Power Company which owns it.

In an interview broadcast nationwide by the state-run Nacional Radio, the Council for Industry and Energy of the Basque Region Government admitted that the latest killing — the second of a chief engineer in less than 16 months — would mean a delay in putting the Lemniz plant into operation, although he said this did not mean any change in plans.

Referring to employees

frightened by ETA attacks and threats, Señor Javier "can only tell them that we have to find a way to keep on, because it is the only positive reply, although I understand that for some people in particular this may not be possible."

About 7,000 mourners stood outside the packed Bilbao church where funeral services were held for the engineer Señor Angel Pascual Mugica, who was shot yesterday.

The relatively low turnout, considering official appeals for citizens to show their contempt for terrorism by attending the funeral, was probably caused by the rainy, chilly weather as well as widespread misgivings about the nuclear energy programme.

Among those attending the requiem mass today were Señor Ignacio Bayón, the Spanish Minister for Industry and Energy, and Señor Carlos Garañano, the President of the Autonomous Government of the Basque Provinces.

### Self-Portrait of a terrorist

## How Red Brigades keep total control

From Peter Nichols, Rome, May 6

The first detailed self-portrait of a terrorist was interrupted today when the Rome Court of Assizes suspended hearings to allow the transfer from tape of 20 hours of testimony given by Antonio Savasta about his life as a killer in the Red Brigades.

The trial principally concerns the kidnapping and murder in the spring of 1978 of Signor Aldo Moro, the leading figure in the governing Christian Democrat Party. But the hearings are also concerned with a whole series of murders and acts of violence by the Rome section of this left-wing terrorist organization. Others among more than 60 accused were far more prominent than Antonio Savasta: Mario Moretti, for instance, remains the most authoritative figure among the former leaders, even in captivity.

Savasta claims a minor role in the Moro affair. He says that he was in favour of killing Signor Moro rather than liberating him however and is believed to have committed 17 murders. The great difference between him and the former leaders of the section is that he has agreed to speak.

He offered to do so immediately he was captured in Padua last January when holding prisoner the American General James Dozier. He has kept his word in five long interrogations conducted mainly by Signor Severino Santapichi, the presiding judge. When hearings resume on Monday he will be at the disposal of defending counsel and of the public prosecutor.

Aged 27, bespectacled with a rather unassuming moustache, he allowed his cold self-control to give way only

once in face of constant descriptions of him as heartless and inhuman. On Tuesday he told the judge: "There is nothing cynical in my answers. You judge me because I have killed, for deaths of which I felt and still feel the weight. But if I were to cry now, as I have cried at length about my own affairs, you would not understand me..."

He went on to explain that the organization had its own logic and personal problems had no place. Moretti and others accused, who refuse cooperation with the court, leave their cages in protest and return to their cells when Savasta speaks. One of them shouted at him that he had reneged not only on the Red Brigade but also on the 27 years of his own life. Savasta was born in Centocelle, studied classics and worked intermittently as a messenger-boy.

He said of his decision to become a terrorist: "My challenge began from the school benches of Centocelle. We felt the need to struggle to conquer new space and not be crushed by rules..."

He is a "classic example of a product of the abandoned suburbs of Rome, a favourite theme of the late poet Pasolini, who was murdered by another product of the same background."

In the hearings yesterday, Savasta sought to convince the court that killers have their problems too. "To kill a person with two different weapons one after the other, is a difficult business. It has happened to me. After the first shots, the victim can have spasms, and you can think he is still alive."

Savasta told the court that the Red Brigades received two shipments of arms from the Palestine Liberation Organization. They had never accepted money from abroad, certainly not from Libya. No foreigners were involved in the Moro kidnappings. He was convinced, he said yesterday, that there could be no manipulation of the Red Brigades from outside.

"I have never had even a suspicion that someone was able to manoeuvre the organization," he said. "Above all because the clandestine life allows, at least at a certain level, an almost total control over the movements of the comrades, and then, the organization's policy is constantly under control from below, through debates."

## New leader for Italian Christian Democrats

From Our Own Correspondent

A new national secretary of the Italian Christian Democrat Party was elected today. He is Signor Ciriaco de Mita, aged 54, who hastened in his first interview after his election, to establish a balance in the crucial question of his relations with the Socialists.

He had been regarded as being the less tolerant of the two candidates for the post, towards the Socialist demands for a greater say in the conduct of the coalition Government's policies.

He said he did not see his election as a challenge to the Socialists but added: "Certainly the Socialists will have to get used to dealing with the Christian Democrats in a rather different way. It was they who asked for equal dignity and that rule must cut both ways." The Socialists make no secret of their ambition to provide the next Prime Minister.

Signor de Mita was elected with about 55 per cent of the votes. His rival, Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the former Prime Minister, led what is regarded as a more conservative alliance of interests within the party more intent on good relations with the Socialists and less interested than Signor de Mita is supposed to be in keeping in friendly contact with the Communists.

The new Secretary's attitude will soon be put to the test. Leaders of the five coalition parties, of which the Christian Democrats are by far the biggest, are due to meet soon to discuss the Government's fate after a series of clashes between Christian Democrats and Socialists.



Signor Ciriaco de Mita (right) shakes hands with the defeated rival, Signor Arnaldo Forlani

more votes for the Socialists would bring the danger of national socialism. The anger of the Socialists at this apparent reference to Nazi tendencies was only curbed by President Pertini's personal intervention when he publicly described the remark as "disgusting".

Signor de Mita was born at Nusco in the Irpinia area near Avellino, the son of a tailor. He was also helped in his schooling by a local priest

and after a year at Naples University he went with a scholarship to the Catholic university in Milan where he took a degree in jurisprudence.

Signor de Mita will play no direct role in government but will control key appointments and policy decisions from party headquarters (Reuter reports).

## Gambian President wins election

From Godfrey Morrison, Banjul, May 6

Sir Dawda Jawara and his ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP) swept to comfortable victories in the Gambian presidential and parliamentary elections. Final results were announced today.

This is interpreted both as a vote of confidence in Sir Dawda, who has ruled the country since independence from Britain in 1965, and as an endorsement of his Government's decision to enter into a confederation with neighbouring Senegal last February.

The formation of the confederation came after an armed left-wing revolt which briefly overthrew Sir Dawda's Government last July, but which was later crushed by Senegalese troops.

In the presidential poll, Sir Dawda was opposed by Mr Sheriff Dikka, the leader of the opposition National Convention Party (NCP) who gained 52,136 votes to Sir Dawda's 137,020.

Mr Dikka conducted his campaign from a prison cell where he is awaiting trial on treason and related charges connected with the NCP's alleged involvement in last July's armed revolt in which up to 600 people are believed to have died.

The NCP has vigorously denied involvement in the revolt.

NCP supporters also queried the fairness of the elections.

PPP supporters point to The Gambia's long tradition

of free and fair elections and say that only in a very liberal democracy would a man detained on treason charges be permitted to stand for president.

Mr Dikka also lost his parliamentary seat which he had held since before independence. The NCP which had five members in the last Parliament, will have only three in the new one.

But the PPP did not have things all its own way. Five of the independent candidates, former PPP supporters who had failed to win party nomination, defeated official candidates and the PPP will have 27 directly elected members in the new Parliament compared to 29.

But Sir Dawda's party will still have a comfortable majority in the new House of Representatives. As president he has the right to nominate eight members and later this week, five chiefs will nominate five traditional rulers to represent them in the new House of 48 members.

Political sources foresee that after his victory, Sir Dawda will seek to consolidate his position through a government reshuffle in which Vice-President Assan Musa Camara, could be demoted.

Whatever the future political line-up here the main issue of contention and interest will remain progress towards making the Senegambian Confederation a reality. The elections have been closely watched by Senegalese representatives.

# ENGINEERED TO OUTRIDE, OUTLOAD AND OUTLAST THE CAR YOU'RE DRIVING NOW.

Precision designed for the utmost comfort. Uniquely engineered for the most spacious and versatile load area. Quality built, and rigorously checked, to stand the test of time. The outstanding Peugeot 305 range of petrol and diesel saloons and estates. Economical, reliable and unbeatable value for money—prices start from just £4,616.

Visit your Peugeot dealer and he'll tell you that now is a particularly good time to buy your new 305.

He's ready with a special 'SPRING BONUS' to help you invest in Peugeot's unique engineering.



Precision engineered for outstanding ride and comfort.

## Two parties demand rerun in Jakarta

From David Watts, Jakarta, May 6

Indonesian opposition parties are demanding a rerun of parts of Tuesday's election in Jakarta after widespread allegations of malpractice.

Both the opposition Indonesian Democratic Party and the Muslim Development Party (PPP) allege that there was extensive double voting in the poll and both parties are preparing official complaints about the conduct of the election.

The government Electoral Commission denies that there was any manipulation in the polls and says that double

voting would be impossible. The commission says that it is prepared to receive complaints providing they are supported by evidence, but meanwhile the counting of the ballots will continue.

The ruling Golkar Party has so far collected 56 per cent of the votes cast and is clearly the national winner—but with fewer than 200,000 votes separating Golkar and PPP in Jakarta, the actual vote total might change through the seat allocations, expected to be five each, will not be affected.

# THE UNIQUELY ENGINEERED PEUGEOT 305

TAKE PRIDE IN PRECISION

THE 305 RANGE OF SALOONS AND ESTATES. 9 MODEL OPTIONS, PETROL AND DIESEL. FOR THE ADDRESS OF YOUR NEAREST DEALER CHECK YELLOW PAGES. DIPLOMATIC, NATO AND PERSONAL EXPORT INQUIRIES: PEUGEOT/TALBOT PARK LANE 63/67 PARK LANE, LONDON W1Y 3TE, TEL: 01-499 5533. PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

## Success claimed by Iran in fresh offensive

Tehran, May 6. — Iran launched an offensive in Northern Khuzestan last night, advancing several miles towards the Iraqi border and capturing hundreds of Iraqi soldiers, Tehran radio said today.

The radio said Iranian armed forces attacked Iraqi positions in the Fakh region, smashing their forward defences within hours. It said the drive was continuing.

Iran said its forces had cut Iraqi supply routes in the region and killed hundreds of Iraqi troops. Iranian aircraft strafed Iraqi concentrations and knocked out 18 tanks in the Fakh region.

Further south, an Iraqi counter-offensive west of a road linking the cities of Ahwaz and Khorramshahr had been smashed by Iranian ground forces last night, a military communiqué said.

It claimed that after pushing the Iraqis back to their previous positions, Iranian troops launched new attacks and were continuing their advance in the area. They captured 700 Iraqis and destroyed 18 tanks. Iraqi troops were seen withdrawing into the battle to attack the road, a strategic highway which Iraqis crossed at the start of an offensive last Friday. — Reuters.

Beirut. — An Iraqi aircraft issued early today said one Iranian jet was shot down in a dogfight over Khuzestan province (AP reports).

The statement came about 12 hours after the Iraqis issued a communiqué saying their helicopters for the first time in the 19-month war had raided the Iraqi border town of Fuka.

Both sides acknowledged that the Iraqis had crossed the Karun river and were battling to take the key highway linking Ahwaz with Khorramshahr. The dispatches indicated each side launched attacks and counterattacks, and the fighting appeared to be shifting back and forth on the west side of Karun river.

On the Awwaz-Khorramshahr Road. — The anti-aircraft gun fires repeatedly, each time with a deferring roar, and give way to a 20-year-old Iranian tank.

The road is now the front line of the southern war. More than 15 miles behind it is the Karun river, forded in the first hours of an offensive that began a week ago.

The "fighters of Islam" along the front are almost all very young, or very old. Many are between 14 and 16 years old, while a handful are older than 50.

"Sixty to 70 per cent of those who are fighting in the sector are not regular soldiers," said a revolutionary guard.

"They are Basij (mobilization) of the disinherited, the ordinary people. Real soldiers are not very frequently found here."

The Basij often are seen wearing armbands over their sand-coloured fatigues, or headbands bearing the words "Allah u Akbar" — God is great.

Their defence of danger is astonishing. After the anti-aircraft gun falls silent, a shell lands a few yards away, the youths stand around, none of them ducks, and all

chortle to see the correspondents diving against a wall of deadhens as the shell thuds into the sand.

## Some life left in Namibia approach

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, May 6

Mr Ewen Ferguson, the new British Ambassador to South Africa, admitted today that the search for a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Namibia has "hit a trough in what, over many years, has been an up-and-down course".

Speaking at a press conference in Cape Town after presenting his letters of credence to the South African President, the ambassador insisted, however, that the current Western negotiation initiative, which got under way last autumn, still had life in it.

Earlier this week, Swapo, the guerrilla organization fighting for Namibia's independence, and "front-line" black African states rejected the Western approach as "sterile", and called instead for the issue to be referred to a new international conference.

The Western "contact group" had been pursuing an itinerant diplomacy aimed at isolating the various issues involved and securing a settlement by stages, but this process has bogged down at the first stage because of African rejection of the method proposed for electing a constituent assembly in Namibia.

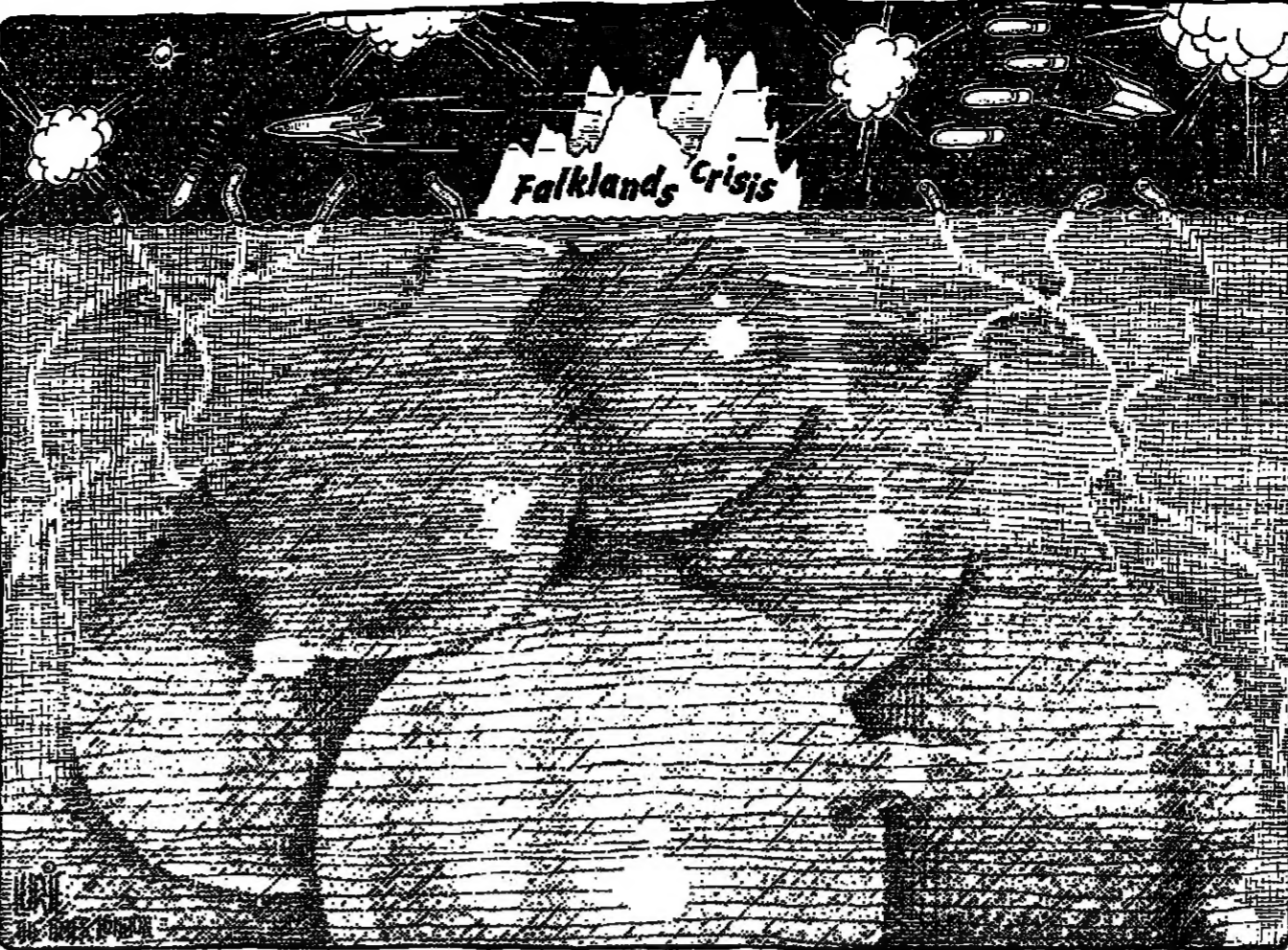
Mr Ferguson said he could not comment further on the future of the Namibia negotiations until "several important meetings" had been concluded, including a meeting of the "contact group" in Paris and talks between senior American and South African officials in Swakopmund next week.

The mood in diplomatic circles is generally gloomy. The international conference approach to the Namibia problem was tried in January of last year in Geneva and it failed; on the other hand there does not seem much point in pressing on with the present phased negotiation if it no longer enjoys the confidence of one of the main parties involved.

The "contact group" from America, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany has been searching for a Namibia settlement since 1977. It embarked on its current task, however, only last year after the failure of the Geneva conference.

Asked about British policy towards South Africa, Mr Ferguson said that his government's aim was not only to protect British interests here but also to "encourage peaceful evolution in South Africa".

"We don't think we have all the answers, and we won't prescribe our own form of society. I believe that humility is perhaps the right approach and to say that we will support any system that has the support of South Africa's people as a whole".



Tip of the iceberg

## Mandela's wife kept from award

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, May 6

An authoritative official review of research on television violence has come to the conclusion that the evidence is "overwhelming" that it leads to aggressive behaviour in young people.

A report of the study carried out for the United States Government said: "Television violence is strongly correlated with aggressive behaviour as any other behavioural variable that has been measured".

The question now was no longer whether the link existed, but what explains it.

The study, a two-year review of work done since America's Surgeon-General first published his report on television violence in 1972, was carried out by the National Institute of Mental Health and has caused a great flutter among the television companies.

The companies were quick to declare that the review was seriously flawed. "Japan has some of the most violent television in the world and they have a very low level of violence in their society," said one Columbia Broadcasting System executive.

Another called the report "an almost uncritical selection and acceptance of certain studies" and said that the literature used to review the task with "public position on the role of television and society".

## Proof claimed of TV link with aggression

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, May 6

Research projects quoted in the report included one of London teenage boys which showed they were more likely to engage in serious violence after watching violent scenes on television.

Another study found "unwanted aggressive behaviour in free play among children of pre-school age who had just watched violent programmes".

One study found an increase in unruliness among black children after viewing *Roots*, the television version of the book celebrating the resistance of slaves in America.

"The evidence accumulated in the 1970s seems overwhelming that television violence is positively related in children," the report says.

"The consensus among most of the research community is that violence on television does lead to aggressive behaviour by children and teenagers who watch the programmes. This conclusion is based on laboratory experiments and field studies."

The National Institute adds: "Not all children become aggressive, of course," and points to a study carried out by the National Broadcasting Company which found no evidence of a long-term link between viewing violence on television and aggressive behaviour.

## Fighters attacked minister

From Our Correspondent Ankara, May 6

Two fighters of unidentified nationality attacked the aircraft carrying Mr Muhammad Benyahia, the Algerian Foreign Minister, in Tehran on Monday, the Turkish Foreign Ministry has confirmed.

The aircraft crashed on Monday afternoon just inside Iran after leaving Turkish air space, killing 14 people on board, Iran blamed Iraq for the fatal shooting.

The Foreign Ministry said a careful examination of tape recordings of the conversation between the pilot and the control tower of the Ereboga airport here had clearly established that the pilot had informed the tower at 13.28 GMT that the aircraft was leaving Turkish air space. After entering Iranian airspace at 13.30 GMT, he had called the tower back to announce that his aircraft was being chased by two fighters and that he would try to turn back.

At the time of the second call, the aircraft was 16 to 30 miles inside Iranian air space, the statement said.

The Iranian national news agency IRNA said the aircraft was hit by Soviet-made Iraqi missiles (Reuters reports).

Beirut. The bodies of Mr Benyahia and 13 other victims of the crash were flown home from Tehran today (AP reports).

## Top judges offer to resign

Manila. — Twelve Filipino Supreme Court judges, led by Chief Justice Enrique Fernando, have submitted their resignations after a Bar examination scandal.

An announcement said President Marcos had received the resignations, but did not say if he had accepted them. The court has 14 members.

No reasons for the resignations were given, but they came after allegations that several judges were involved in changing the grade of the son of one of them in the 1981 Bar examinations, enabling him to pass.

## Maize shortage

Lusaka. — Zambia is in import 400,000 tonnes of maize at a cost of about £41m this year to offset a shortfall caused by drought. Mr Ndumiso Munda, the Zambian Prime Minister, was quoted as saying, "Half of the maize would come from Zimbabwe."

## Chad threat

Ndjamena. — President Goukouni Oueddei restated his intention to call on an "outside force" to end the rebellion in Chad if the organization of the African Unity decided to withdraw its peace-keeping force.

## Joint protest

Dar es Salaam. — Tanzania and Mozambique have condemned South Africa for financing anti-government guerrillas in neighbouring countries and called for the dismantling of the United States base on the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia.

## Unitá kills nun

Lisbon. — Unitá, the anti-government force in Angola, has admitted killing the Mother Superior of a Portuguese Roman Catholic mission in an armed attack on the Vila Nova de Soles mission on April 27.

## Consuls' fears

Boston. — Foreign consuls in Boston have demanded that the authorities in Massachusetts grant them more protection after the assassination of Mr Orhan Kassab, the Turkish honorary Consul General on Tuesday night.

## Kidnap victim

Brescia. — Rosa Olmi, a member of a wealthy family of road builders, has been kidnapped from her flat in Travagliato, Northern Italy.

## Exciting find

Peking. — Archaeologists have discovered a superb, 1,400-year-old mural depicting the life of an aristocrat, in the province of Shunxi.

## 37 MPs ousted after poll in Sierra Leone

Freetown, May 6. — With all the results from last Saturday's general election in Sierra Leone now declared, nearly 40 MPs have lost their seats in the one-party legislature.

Two Cabinet ministers were defeated. Thirteen other ministers were elected unopposed, with six other candidates. Thirty-seven new MPs were elected, with 17 members of the old parliament re-elected.

Results in 13 constituencies were annulled due to "serious irregularities" and President Siaka Stevens told a press conference on Tuesday that new elections would be held there within a month.

Apart from ordinary members, the Sierra Leone Parliament also includes 12 paramount chiefs. AFP.

## Amoco Cadiz damages hearings open

From Our Own Correspondent New York, May 6

Pre-trial hearings have begun in Chicago in the case of the Amoco Cadiz tanker which struck the coast of Brittany in March 1978, causing massive oil pollution.

The French government, municipalities and some private interests are suing the tanker's owners, Standard Oil of Indiana (Amoco), alleging \$110m of damage.

They claim that Amoco was negligent in failing to maintain the ship in a seaworthy condition. Documents lodged with the court on Tuesday show that the oil company counters that the French failed to assist the tanker, and caused much of the pollution themselves by inefficient cleaning operations.

## Law Report May 7 1982 House of Lords

## Nervous shock damages for those not at scene of accident

McLoughlin v O'Brien and Others

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered May 6]

Illness caused by shock to a mother who was told at home that her family had been seriously injured in a car accident two miles away and saw them in hospital in varying states of distress and injury and was told one child had been killed was held by the House of Lords to be reasonably foreseeable consequence of the admitted negligence of the drivers of two lorries involved in the accident.

Therefore her mother was entitled to bring an action for damages against the negligent defendants, and no question of public policy prevented the floodgates to similar claims should deter the courts from applying established principles of liability in such cases.

Their lordships allowed an appeal by Mrs Rosina McLoughlin, of Sawston, Cambridge, from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce and Lord Justice Griffiths) (The Times, January 13, 1981; [1981] QB 599) which had dismissed her appeal from Mr Justice Boreham, and held that although it was reasonably foreseeable that injury by shock would be caused to a wife and mother in the position of the plaintiff, the duty of care owed by the driver of a vehicle was limited to persons in the vicinity of or near the scene of an accident and directly affected by his negligence; that considerations of public policy limited the duty of care in that way and did not require it to be extended; and that since the plaintiff was two miles away from the accident and did not learn of or see its consequences until two hours later, she was not entitled to recover damages for nervous shock.

Mr Michael Ogden, QC and Mr Jonathan Haverthwaite, for Mrs McLoughlin; Mr Michael Turner, QC and Mr John Leighton Williams for the defendants.

LORD WILBERFORCE said that the appeal arose from a tragic road accident on October 19, 1972, near Withersfield, Suffolk. The plaintiff's husband and three of her children were involved in an accident when their car was in collision with a lorry driven by the first defendant and owned by the second. That lorry had been in collision with another lorry driven by the third defendant and owned by the fourth. It was admitted that the accident to the car was caused by the defendants' negligence.

As a result of the accident, the husband suffered bruising and shock; George, aged 17, suffered facial and head injuries, cerebral concussion, fractures of both scapulae and of the right arm; Kathleen, aged seven, suffered concussion and other injuries; Gillian, aged three, was so seriously injured that she died

almost immediately. At the time, the plaintiff was at her home about two miles away. An hour or later the accident was reported to her by a neighbour, Mr Pilgrim, who told her that her husband George was seriously injured and that the whereabouts of her husband or the condition of her daughter, he then drove her to Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge.

Michael, a fourth child not in the accident, told her that Gillian was dead. She saw through a corridor window Kathleen crying, with her face cut and begrimed with dirt and oil.

She could hear George shouting and screaming. She was taken to her husband who was sitting with his head in his hands, his shirt hanging off him and he was covered in mud and oil. He saw his wife and started sobbing.

She was then taken to see George; the whole of his left face and neck were covered in blood. He appeared to recognize her and then lapsed into unconsciousness.

Shortly after she was taken to Kathleen who has been cleaned up but was too upset to speak and simply clung to her mother. There could be no doubt that those circumstances witnessed by the plaintiff, were distressing in the extreme and capable of producing an effect going well beyond that of grief and sorrow.

The plaintiff later brought proceedings against the four defendants for what was pleaded as nervous shock. The claim was limited to those circumstances of depression and a change of personality. The trial judge asked to assume that her condition had been caused or contributed to by shock as distinct from grief or sorrow; and that the plaintiff was a person of reasonable fortitude.

He held, however, in a most careful judgment reviewing the authorities, that the defendants owed no duty of care to her because the possibility of her suffering injury by nervous shock, in the circumstances, was not reasonably foreseeable.

His judgment was upheld on appeal but not on the same ground. Lord Justice Stephenson took the view that the possibility of injury by nervous shock was reasonably foreseeable and that the defendants owed her a duty of care. However, he held that considerations of policy prevented her from recovering damages for injury by nervous shock to the plaintiff was "readily foreseeable" but that the defendants owed her no duty of care; the duty was limited to those on the road nearby. Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce agreed with both judgments.

The critical question on the appeal was whether a person in the position of the plaintiff, one who was not present at the scene of grievous injuries to her family but who came upon them

at an interval of time and space, could recover damages for nervous shock — not recognised as an identifiable and distinct physical impact.

The position reached on the authorities as they now stood was:

1 While damages could not, at common law, be awarded for grief and sorrow, claims for damages for nervous shock caused by negligence could be made without the need of showing direct impact or fear of immediate personal injuries for oneself.

2 A plaintiff might recover damages for nervous shock brought about by injury to him or herself but to a near relative, or by the fear of such injury.

3 Subject to paragraph 4, there was no English case in which a plaintiff had been able to recover nervous shock damages where the injury to the near relative was caused by negligence caused by the plaintiff. In *Hambrook v Stokes Bros* (1925) 1 KB 141 an express distinction was made between shock caused by what the mother saw with her own eyes and what she might have been told by bystanders, liability on the former being limited to persons on the insured; road users or employers.

4 An extension of the latter case had been made where the plaintiff did not see or hear the accident but was told of it immediately afterwards. In *Boardman v Sanderson* (1964) 1 WLR 1317 the father was within earshot of the accident to his child and likely to come on account of the child and suffered damage from what he then saw. In *Marshall v Lionel Enterprises* (1972) VR 789 the mother was in her home 100 yards away, and on communication by a third party, ran to the scene of the accident and there suffered shock. Their Lordships had to decide whether to validate those extensions.

5 A remedy on account of nervous shock was given to a man who came on a serious accident involving many people as a rescuer: *Chadwick v British Railways Board* (1967) 1 WLR 912. Shock was caused neither by fear for himself nor on account of a near relative. The principle of rescuer cases should be accepted, but the House had to consider whether, and how far, it could be applied to cases like the present.

Throughout those developments, the courts had proceeded in the traditional manner of the common law from case to case, on the basis of limited necessity. Unless the law was to draw an arbitrary line at the point of direct sight and sound, the extension under paragraph 4 above required acceptance in the interests of justice.

On the logical progression in the decided cases, it was hard to see why the present plaintiff

should not succeed. But his Lordships had been deeply impressed by the arguments of the defendants that the claim below that at the margin the boundaries of a man's responsibility for acts of negligence had to be kept within narrow limits.

On the approach of Lord Atkin stating the neighbour principle in *Donoghue v Stevenson* [1932] AC 582, 589, foreseeability had to be limited by the law's judgment as to persons who might, according to its standards of value or justice, be held to be liable for the consequences of their negligence.

The policy arguments against a wider extension came under four heads.

First, it might be said that such extension might lead to a proliferation of claims and to the establishment of an industry of lawyers and psychiatrists who would formulate a claim for nervous shock damages for all, or many, road and industrial accidents.

Second, it might be claimed that an extension of liability would be unfair to defendants, as it would place on them a burden of proportion to the negligent conduct complained of. In so far as such defendants were insured, a large additional burden would be placed on insurers, and ultimately on the insured: road users or employers.

Third, to extend liability beyond the most direct and plain cases would greatly increase evidentiary difficulties and lengthen litigation.

Fourth, as the Court of Appeal agreed, an extension of the scope of liability ought only to be made by the legislature.

Just because shock in its nature was capable of affecting so wide a range of people, there remained, in his Lordships' opinion, a real need for the law to place some limitation on the extent of admissible claims.

As regarded the class of persons, the possible range was between the closest of families — of parent and child, or husband and wife — and the ordinary bystander.

Existing law recognized the claims of the first; it denied those of the second, either on the basis that such persons had to be assumed to be possessed of fortitude sufficient to enable them to endure the calamities of disaster, or that defendants could not be expected to moderate the world at large.

Those positions were justifiable, and since the present case fell within the first class, it was unnecessary to say more. His Lordship thought, however, that other cases involving less close relationships must be very

carefully scrutinized. The closer the tie the greater the claim for consideration. As it was, the proximity to the accident, it was obvious that it must be close in both time and space. It was, after all, the fact and consequence that counted, and not the time that must be proved to have caused the nervous shock.

Experience had shown that to insist on direct and immediate causation was not only impractical and unjust and that under what might be called the "aftermath" doctrine, one who, from close proximity, came upon the scene, should not be excluded. The result in *Benson v Loe* was correct and indeed inescapable. But a strict test of proximity by sight or hearing should be applied by the courts.

As to communication there was no case in which the law had been extended to persons who had not been in direct contact with a third party. The shock must come through sight or hearing of the event or of its immediate aftermath.

Whether some equivalent of sight or hearing, for example, through simultaneous television, could be admitted, was a question which might have to be considered.

His Lordships' indications, imperfectly sketched, and certainly not intended to be applied to individual situations in their entirety, represented either the existing law or the existing law as it might be extended in the common law process might legitimately make.

They did not introduce a new principle. It did his Lordship seem that the law should remain behind the lines already drawn. The plaintiff's case fell within the boundaries of the law so drawn. He would allow her appeal.

LORD EDMUND DAVIES, concurring in the result, said that the sole basis on which the claim was that of public policy — on the ground of what might be called the "floodgates" argument.

His Lordship was unconvinced that the number and area of claims in shock cases would be substantially increased or enlarged were the defendants here held liable.

In the present case, two totally different points arising from speeches called for further attention: both relating to the Court of Appeal's invoking public policy. Lord Bridge seemingly doubted that any regard should have been had to such a consideration, the sole test of liability being the reasonable foreseeability of injury to the plaintiff through nervous shock resulting from the defendants' negligent default.

And, such foreseeability having been established, it followed that in law no other course was open to the Court of Appeal than to allow the appeal. His Lordship

could not accept that approach. Nor could his Lordship agree with the Court of Appeal that public policy had no relevance to liability to law.

The proposition that "the policy issue is not justiciable" was a novel one. It was, he said, never mentioned during the hearing in the House. And it was not a matter for the court to decide. It was a matter for the legislature to decide.

As Lord Reid had said in *British Railways Board v Herrington* (1972) AC 877, 897: "Legal principles cannot solve the problem. How far occupiers are to be required by law to take steps to safeguard such children must be a matter of public policy."

In accordance with the authorities, public policy issues were justiciable. As his Lordship said, "The difficulty of discovering what public policy is at any given moment certainly does not mean that public policy is a matter of doing so. The judges are bound to take notice of it and of the changes which it undergoes, and it is immaterial that the question may be one of ethics rather than of law."

In the present case the Court of Appeal did just that, and they were right in doing so. But they concluded that public policy required them to dismiss what they clearly regarded as an otherwise irretrievable claim. In that they were wrong.

LORD RUSSELL said that if the effect on this wife and mother of the results of the defendants' negligence was considered to have been reasonably foreseeable, his Lordship did not see any justification for not finding them liable in damages therefor. He would not shrink from regarding in an appropriate case policy as something which might feature in a judicial decision.

In the last analysis any policy consideration seemed to be rooted in a fear of floodgates opening. His Lordship was not impressed by that fear and certainly not sufficiently to deprive this plaintiff of just compensation for the reasonably foreseeable damage done to her.

LORD SCARMAN, accepting Lord Bridge's approach to the whole area of English law concerning the liability of a tortfeasor who had negligently killed or physically injured A, pay damages to B for a psychiatric illness resulting from A's death or injury stood in urgent need of review.

The basic difficulty of the subject arose from the fact that the crucial question in the questions it raised lay in the difficult field of psychiatric medicine.

The first hurdle: plaintiff claiming damages for a psychiatric illness was to establish that he was suffering not merely grief, distress or any other normal emotion, but a positive psychiatric illness, and must then establish the necessary chain of causation in fact between his psychiatric illness and the death or injury of one or more third parties negligently caused by the defendant.

The all-important question was whether the chain of causation, considered *ex post facto* in the light of all that had happened was "reasonably foreseeable" by the "reasonable man". The answer to that depended on what knowledge was to be attributed to the hypothetical reasonable man of the operation of cause and effect in psychiatric medicine — which was far from being exact science.

It would seem that the consensus of informed judicial opinion was probably the best yardstick available to determine whether, in any given circumstance, a psychiatric illness resulting from the death or injury of third parties, ex hypothesi attributable to the defendant's negligence, was reasonably foreseeable in law, as well as the actual cause in fact, of the plaintiff's psychiatric or psychosomatic illness.

His Lordship developed consideration of the relevant law, and by a gradual approach, the question whether the law should, as a matter of policy, draw a line which exempted from liability a defendant whose negligence, act or omission was actually and foreseeably the cause of the plaintiff's psychiatric illness.

His Lordship developed consideration of the relevant law, and by a gradual approach, the question whether the law should, as a matter of policy, define the criterion of liability in negligence for causing psychiatric illness by reference to some test other than that of reasonable foreseeability. It was well to remember that they were concerned with the question of liability of a defendant who was ex hypothesi guilty of fault in causing the death, injury or damage to the plaintiff, and that the question of the psychiatric illness was a matter of policy, not of fact.

His Lordship saw no ground for suggesting that to make the defendant liable for reasonably foreseeable psychiatric illness caused by his negligence would be to impose a crushing burden on the defendant, or that it was a matter of proportion to his moral responsibility. The successful claims in this field and the quantum of damages they would attract were likely to be moderate.

To attempt to draw a line at the furthest point which any of the decided cases happened to have reached, and to say that it was for the legislature, not the court, to extend the limits of liability any further, would be an unwarranted abdication of the court's function of developing and adapting principles of the common law which exemplified the important and indeed necessary part which that function had to play.

This was an area of the law of negligence where the House should resist the temptation to try yet once more to freeze the law in a rigid posture which would deny justice to some who, in the application of the classic principles of negligence derived from *Donoghue v Stevenson*, ought to succeed.

The defendant's duty must depend on reasonable foreseeability and must be adjudicated only on a case by case basis. If asked where the line was to stop, his Lordship would answer: "Where the particular case the good sense of the judges, enlightened by progressive awareness of mental illness, decided."

Solicitors: Vinters, Cambridge; Hextall, Earsfield & Co, Northampton.

# Pan Am Recreates the Luxury of the China Clipper.



Pan Am invented airborne luxury.

It is difficult for us to imagine today the thrill of flying on the China Clipper from San Francisco back in 1935. The eighteen hours to Hawaii was considered a miracle, spanning the Pacific in three days impossible.

But all the passengers were well provided for by attentive stewards in specially designed uniforms.

The passengers dined from tables covered in linen. The plates were fine china and the silver was real.

Fresh food was taken on board in Honolulu and passengers chose between fresh pineapple and French pastries as the China Clipper chased the sun across the Pacific.

## The elegant tradition continues.

Fresh cold seafood. Champagne. The dilemma of such difficult decisions as having to choose between smooth pâté or the richly textured pâté de campagne.

You can experience Pan Am to these U.S. cities.

New York	Honolulu
Miami	Las Vegas
Los Angeles	New Orleans
San Francisco	Orlando
Seattle	Pittsburgh
Washington D.C.	San Diego
Houston	Atlanta
Dallas/Fort Worth	Tampa
Detroit	Phoenix
	Kansas City

Shrimp in mustard sauce. And this is before dinner.

The vegetables are crisp, the roast beef is precisely the way you want it, the fish is succulent, the wine flows endlessly, the fruit ripened to perfection, the cheeses imported,



## First Class. More space, more privacy, more comfort.

the chocolate cake disgraceful.

Yes, First Class Service on Pan Am today is quite an experience.



## Pan Am's First Class seat may be the most comfortable in the sky.

The idea behind our Sleeperette® seat service is not new. The first one appeared in our Constellations in 1949 when it took 23 hours to fly between Europe and the U.S. And while the concept is not new its high level of comfort is.

There are enough angles in it to support whatever it is you wish to do—spread out and work, or stretch out and relax.

Should you be fortunate enough to experience this seat of seats, notice the smile that comes to your face as you settle into precisely the right position.

## The extraordinary sense of privacy on every Pan Am widebody.

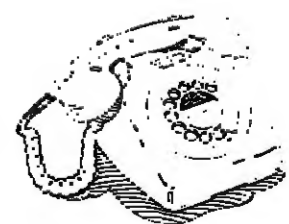
You will experience more space in First Class on every Pan Am widebody 747 and L1011. (And we have more widebodied jets than any other airline, by the way.) This is largely a function of the fact that we usually put fewer seats in the same amount of space as any of the other airlines.

The truth is, there is more space in and around our seat than anyone has been able to find any practical use for.

But there is one delicious impractical consequence. Room enough in which to feel privacy.

This experience of privacy is, perhaps, the greatest luxury to be found in travel these days.

Contact your travel agent, or phone Pan Am.  
London 01-409 0688  
Birmingham 021-236 9561  
Manchester 061-832 7626  
Glasgow 041-248 5744  
Prestel 215747



# Pan Am. You Can't Beat the Experience.

David Watt

# Three years on, the ironic anniversary

May 4, 1979:

Mrs Thatcher arriving at Number 10: 'Where there is discord may we bring harmony. Where there is error may we bring truth'



April 25, 1982

With John Nott, after the recapture of South Georgia: 'We should rejoice... and congratulate our forces'



A Conservative MP told me yesterday that after the sinking of HMS Sheffield he felt guilty that he and his colleagues should have spent so much of the week speculating about the effect of the Falklands crisis on the local government elections.

One sees what he means. Beside questions of physical survival in the south Atlantic, questions of political survival in the town halls and even at Westminster are to be seen in a very different perspective. Nevertheless he should not feel excessively defensive. The Falklands crisis has already been affected by domestic politics and will ultimately be determined by them. Equally, domestic politics will be determined by the Falklands conflict. The two cannot be separated.

The fate of Mrs Thatcher, and the Government, now hinges on the issue and the way the electorate eventually judges the outcome. The knowledge that this is so will powerfully (and rightly) affect the decisions of the Cabinet and Parliament's attitude to negotiations. In other words, the fate which ordained with sublime malignity that the Sheffield should be destroyed on the third anniversary of the day on which Mrs Thatcher took office had some ironic significance.

It would be easy to say that without the Falklands question the Thatcher government would be in good shape; and indeed just a few weeks ago, before the crisis blew up, the conventional wisdom in Conservative circles proclaimed that it was all going to come right after all — and for a good variety of reasons. First the economy.

The indicators are beginning to look up: inflation is coming down fast and the underlying tone of the stock market is buoyant. British industry, by common consent, has become more competitive from having shed jobs and sharpened its management practices during the recession. Admittedly unemployment is bound to remain above three million until after the election but it has been so bad for so long that the voters may now

accept it as a fact of life, beyond the scope of politics and politicians. If it is showing a downward trend at the election that will be, on this calculation, quite good enough.

Next there is the coherence and credibility of the Government's team. The Prime Minister herself is said by her officials to be growing in skill and self-confidence. Her supporters believe moreover that the Cabinet, having wrenched by one means or another such awkward foreign bodies as Lords Carrington and Soames, Sir Ian Gilmour and Mr St John Stevas, is now a reasonably homogenous body subservient to Mrs Thatcher's will. It only needs the departure of Mr Prior and possibly, in due course, the decent retirement of Mr Whitelaw to be more or less everything the heart could desire.

This last point is not mere commentator's sarcasm. There is a genuine argument here, conceded even by some wets, that the public is getting used to a right-wing government. The debate about monetarism continues to rage at the academic level but essentially it is over because the Government has won. There is wide acceptance that unpleasant economic medicine had to be prescribed.

Moreover, the argument continues, Mrs Thatcher's position on law and order, permissiveness, decentralisation and the trade unions are all, in practice, those he great mass of the public. People admire her even if they do not like her and are more likely to vote for her if they feel she is in control than if she is having to compromise her principles.

Seen in this light, the Falklands crisis is an unfortunate incident which, if it drags on indefinitely, ends in what appears to be defeat, will no doubt undo all the good effects listed above but which, if it can be settled quickly and with some semblance of honour, will leave the basic Conservative advantages untouched and even enhanced by the positively Churchillian image of steadfastness, determination and patriotism with which it will be possible to clothe the Prime Minister.

This is an attractive prospect and there is no earthly way of proving that it is wrong. On the other hand there is undoubtedly a plausible counter case to be made. So far as the underlying economic situation is concerned, it can certainly be argued that the timing is wrong.

Unless the American econ-

omy stages a major recovery this year (which looks increasingly improbable) the British economy will remain depressed until well into 1983 and possibly for the whole of the year. In any case the optimistic scenario depends on two other improbables — in the short term a pick-up in investment even if demand is slack and in the longer term the willingness on the part of the unions (and the voters) to watch profits go up rather than wages.

On the credibility of the Cabinet, more particularly the Prime Minister, there is, to put it at its lowest, a considerable price to be paid for homogeneity. Whatever the doctrinal arguments between wets and dries, the cumulative loss of the wets from the Cabinet in terms of experience and political weight would be quite damaging. The absence of men — or for that matter women — who are willing and able to take on Mrs Thatcher in argument must eventually have had for policy. Almost everything that has happened in the past three years, from her first reference to St Francis of Assisi to her 'rejoice' over South Georgia, bears witness to the fact that she is an impetuous woman whose instincts are highly combative and

emotional. She is also an experienced politician but reason, caution and calculation come second and need to be evoked by the passage of time and the painful process of argument.

Since she is often overbearing in the extreme (an old hand recalls Melbourne's remark: "I wish I was as certain of one thing as Tom Macaulay is about everything") it takes some courage and political muscle to act as midwife to her rational reactions. These are not attributes now much in evidence, and there are a number of people on the Conservative back benches and in her coterie who do their utmost to persuade her that the voice of her right-wing conscience is the true prophet and all others false. The results are frequently impressive and sometimes admirable but the total effect on her prime ministership is dangerous.

This consideration leads to another: that while the present Government may well have shifted the centre of political gravity towards the Thatcher position (as Sir Keith Joseph always hoped) that does not mean that the British, after several hundred years, have suddenly become people easy to lead from a position far away from what

ever appears at the time to be the middle ground.

The charge of "extremism" is always a damaging one in British politics but the practical difficulties of achieving compromise in a complicated open society are the really substantial drawback to the abandonment of the centre. The Falklands affair puts much of this to the test. The Prime Minister has apparently shown all her best qualities — courage and stamina — during the last week but also some of her worst — impetuosity and inflexibility.

She is in an embattled state. She has lost in Lord Carrington a man who never shrank from standing up to her. Mr Whitelaw and Mr Pym are, to put it delicately, more oblique in their arguments and both lack self-confidence in foreign policy. Mr Nott, who was appointed Defence Secretary specifically to cut the budget, is out of his depth. Again much of the advice Mrs Thatcher has to rely on comes from The Foreign Office, of which she is profoundly suspicious.

On top of all this the real pinch is that it is hard to see a way out of the crisis that does not involve either all-out war against Argentina on the one hand or some compromise of the principles Mrs Thatcher has proclaimed. The country does not want the first, and the 60 or so right-wingers on the Conservative back benches who constitute her strongest support will not countenance the second.

If, as I expect, Mrs Thatcher's head eventually beats her doctrinal conscience I do not say she chooses to risk the displeasure of her immediate supporters rather than the long-term resentment of the electors, she is not, in my opinion, home and dry.

But since a compromise is probably the only way of avoiding the semblance of national consensus into the fourth year of her administration it at least gives her a sporting chance, and for this reason it is really the only possible course.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1982

## Contraception: how many will heed the Pope?

by Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Correspondent

There used to be a trilogy of Roman Catholic evils, lumped together and condemned in a sweeping phrase: "contraception, abortion, and euthanasia." It was a fair bet, 20 years ago, that if a Roman Catholic priest or bishop were sermonizing on moral issues, by "moral" he meant those three. Somehow, in that period of time the list shrunk to two. It is now discernibly expanding again, to include nuclear war, racial discrimination, and Third World issues. But contraception, somewhere along the line, has dropped out of sight.

It would be extremely difficult to trace a single official statement of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales in the last decade that said anything at all about contraception. There is an embarrassed silence. Many priests, the majority of Roman Catholic lay people, and even possibly most bishops in this country do not support their church's official teaching. Mention in the context of Pope John Paul II's visit to Britain later this month, and there is a distinct drawing of breath through clenched teeth. The Pope goes all the way with the official line, and is going to say so when he comes.

He considers himself an expert on the subject of sex and marriage, and as Pope he can lay down the law single-handed. Thus while a synod of bishops spent the Roman autumn of 1980 making speeches to each other about family life, the Pope was delivering a series of weekly homilies on the subject in St Peter's. One of them produced his famous remark about husbands committing adultery with their wives, something the bishops had not thought of.

At the end of the synod he told them some of the answers to the complex issues that had been causing them such a struggle rather as if they had asked Bowdler. That occasion produced the almost equally famous ruling that divorced Catholics in second marriages could not receive the sacraments unless they lived chastely as brother and sister.

It was not the answer the bishops had come to, and it horrified the English delegation. Cardinal Hume, needless to say, has not passed the instruction on to his flock.

The English bishops, for the first time in the progressive vanguard of Catholic opinion, have been working for some time to open the Vatican's locked door. They have turned their fingers when the Pope slammed it shut again. Cardinal Hume and the Archbishop of Liverpool, Monsignor Derek Worlock, have seen the surveys of opinion in the English church, and concluded that the contraception issue was responsible for a damaging sense of alienation among the faithful.

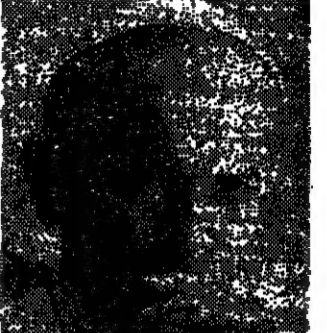
When the pastoral congress of the Roman Catholic Church took place at Liverpool in August 1980, they decided the problem could be suppressed no longer. The anxiety and confusion of lay delegates to the congress came into the open, and there was a large majority for the proposition that the traditional line would have to be changed — or developed — to use the more respectful, generally preferred word.

What they meant was clear enough. The traditional line

states that every time a Roman Catholic married couple have sexual intercourse using a contraceptive device, or every time they have intercourse if the wife is on the pill — for contraceptive reasons, they are committing a mortal sin. Only if they repent of their actions, in confession to a priest, can they receive the Holy Communion. The sin was declared by Pope Pius XI in 1930 and Pope Paul VI in 1968, is intrinsic to the act. No amount of good will or right intention can justify it.

Pope John Paul holds this position firmly. The delegates to the pastoral congress certainly did not. The message was carried to Rome by Cardinal Hume and Mr Worlock, and they returned rebuffed. Subsequently the Pope has reiterated the traditional line in his official response to the synod published last year, and the impasse is as solid as ever. The Liverpool congress appears nevertheless to have drained some of the poison off, simply by letting the lay Roman Catholic voice be heard.

There remains a quite numerous section of the Catholic population, particularly older people, which loyally upholds the traditional teaching. Meanwhile the Catholic birth-rate has fallen to the point where it is not significantly different from the rest of the population, and the majority of young married Catholics have somehow come to terms with their consciences (sometimes after a word of reassurance from a priest that the ban on contraception is perhaps not quite like other parts of the Catholic faith, being ignominious so long as it is ignored in a serious-minded sort of way).



Pope John Paul II: laying down the law

The Pope's contribution to healing this division in the Catholic Church is to instruct moral theologians that they should produce more convincing arguments in support of the traditional line. There may be theologians who have responded, but the consensus of their peers is against them.

Most theologians who do not want trouble have directed their energies elsewhere; because if they had to think what they really thought about contraception they would be regarded as challenging the Pope's authority. It was contraception, after all, which sent the Swiss theologian Hans Küng in his exploration of the limits of papal authority on moral matters, and he was stripped of his title as a Catholic theologian by the Vatican as a result.

Theologians have generally avoided writing about sexual matters, just as bishops and priests, in England at any rate, have avoided preaching about them. It is not a healthy situation, and the heavy paper empire of the issue can only make it worse.

## How the anti-lead lobby fuelled the petrol debate

At the international gurus of the lead poisoning controversy converge on London this weekend for a conference organized by the aggressive campaign dedicated to embarrassing the government into taking lead out of petrol. It is worth assessing how far that crusade has gone and in which direction.

By the end of the year, the Campaign for Lead-Free Air (CLFA) may well have persuaded all three opposition parties to take up lead-free petrol policies; it has recharged and polarized a debate which looked set to fade in the aftermath of last year's government decision to cut but not eliminate lead from petrol. In the face of the issue's almost unique capacity for arousing public anxiety over child health, government ministers are looking for appeasing measures.

The Times has now investigated how the original government announcement came to be made. The findings show that it was a prolonged battle over tangled priorities, and in the end the ministers went down the line of least expensive resistance. Muddled evidence that the invisible and tasteless lead aerosol emitted by car exhausts may damage children's intelligence, triggered a campaign against the health and safety of British Leyland and the government's unwillingness to do anything which cost money about other crucial sources of lead pollution. If the campaign wins,

it will be a rare example of moral politics defeating realpolitik.

The negotiation began in November 1979 when a working party of civil servants, chaired by Mr John Rowcliffe, a Department of the Environment under-secretary in charge of the ministry's Central Directorate of Environmental Pollution, started to digest two documents: the "Lawther Report", a Government-commissioned study of lead pollution, and a lesser-known report written by a civil service-industry committee on the costs and implications of various possible decisions about petrol lead (known by its acronym as the WOPLIP report). The working party was to sit for almost 18 months before presenting a divided report to a cabinet committee and was attended by or heard from the departments of health, transport, environment, energy, industry, the Treasury and London Transport.

According to a Department of Energy internal memorandum of July 1980, both the DHSS and the DoE began by arguing that not only should there be an immediate cut in the lead content of petrol, but that it should be accompanied by "a further commitment to lead-free petrol". Some progress has been made, said the note, "in establishing wider areas of agreement, but it is not possible to resolve the fundamental departmental differ-

ences at official level".

Contrary to the claims of both the attackers and the defenders of lead, the health and environment officials had some muted support for their stand from the Lawther committee. The committee of experts published its report three months after the working party first met and its chorus of criticism for its dismissive attitude to the evidence on the risks from petrol lead.

Its only recommendations on the subject said that "emissions of lead to the air from traffic and other sources should be progressively reduced"; Lawther and at least several of his colleagues meant that the lead level in petrol should be reduced until it reached zero. "I was in favour," Professor Lawther said last week, "and I still am." "Progressive" means ultimately to phase it out.

He added that he thought that this had been the whole committee's view. In October 1980, two members of the Lawther committee, Dr William Yule and Dr Richard Lansdown, presented the preliminary findings of some research which they had been asked to do by the committee to test American surveys which suggested an association between lead levels and reductions in intelligence. Although when the research was published almost a year later, its conclusions were hedged with cautions, the reports brought back to their department by the

DHSS officials present at the meeting created a fear that the Government might announce a cautious cut in lead decision at almost exactly the same moment as a key piece of research advanced knowledge of its dangers. But during that autumn, the push towards the lead-free position was being abandoned. Why?

Inside the flurry of obstacles thrown up by government spokesmen from the Prime Minister downwards since the launch of the new CLEAR campaign, there are two problems still seen as insuperable. No solution to the problem which would really alter lead levels in the atmosphere was going to be cheap and the dilemma was to settle where the costs should fall. If there was to be a sharp cut but nothing else, the cost fell on the oil companies. If there was to be a gradual phase-out of lead from the rest of Europe would weaken British Leyland during the transition. If foreign car manufacturers were better placed to sell cars in Britain running on lead-free, production lines would have to be adapted to make both lead-free and leaded petrol engines and that any increase in the cost of cars or fuel might depress demand for cars.

While all these arguments are challenged by the anti-lead campaigners, they have not so far found many converts in Whitehall. And the safety of British Leyland would have found a receptive ear at the EEA cabinet committee which made the eventual decision 13 months ago to lay the cost on the oil refiners by bringing the lead level down to 0.15 grams per litre by the end of 1985. It was established, not to consider ecological questions, but minor industrial problems.

Ministers have sometimes argued that EEC regulations prevent a move to lead-free petrol, citing either the directive which says that governments should not set lead levels lower than 15g/l, or the fact that the cost of manufacturing leaded petrol cars might claim that the change would be a barrier to selling their cars in Britain. The minimum limit is regarded in Whitehall as being changeable if any country wants to lower it. The articles of the Treaty of Rome which deal with the trade restraint exempt any restrictions which can be justified by the protection of "human or animal life or health." Neither of these problems approaches the dimensions of the two main snags.

The second of those was a sense of priorities which has ensured that because of the immediate action on the sources of lead pollution is hard, full action on the

minor sources will have to wait. The Government accepted the scientific consensus that petrol lead is a minor contributor to each person's "burden" of lead; new evidence appears to challenge that assumption.

None of the departments at the discussions were prepared to spend extra money to help replumb buildings with lead piping or to redecorate houses with flaking leaded paint; on those crucial sources, action has been confined to exhortation and the extension of the home improvement grant scheme to cover new piping.

The polarised confrontations of the last few months have obscured the fact that the north or medical voices which combine scepticism about the evidence with an advocacy of eliminating lead. Professor Michael Rutter, a professor of child psychiatry who was retained by the Lawther committee to review the evidence on lead and intelligence calls the research "muddy" but says that the government should "play safe." As Professor Lawther himself put it: "I personally think that banning lead from petrol will only mean a drop of 10 or 15 per cent of each person's lead and there are far worse sources. But OK if the world wants to pay for that much, who am I to wish pollution in the air?"

George Brock

## Nye's widow says no to another BBC TV request

Baroness Lee, the widow of Aneurin Bevan, has cancelled her engagement to appear on the BBC 2 programme *Did you see...?* tomorrow night. The reason is the offence she took at what she calls the "unpleasant vulgarity" of the script of Paul Ferris's documentary *Nye*, which BBC 1 screened last weekend.

Baroness Lee refused to help Ferris, with his research in preparation for the play, though she did talk for six hours with John Hartley, the actor who played her husband. In the event she found the play "a travesty, creating a completely wrong impression."

No doubt *Nye* is intended to be a major topic on this week's *Did you see...?* Baroness Lee's place has been taken by Jill Craigie, the wife of Michael Foot who succeeded Bevan in his Ebbw Vale constituency and is his biographer. Foot himself was the first to be invited. "Jill Craigie is fine," Baroness Lee told me yesterday. "She will represent the views of both Michael and myself. Michael was like a younger brother in my family."

## Curbing cuts

One of the sensational aspects of the long parliamentary career of the late Lord Janner, who died this week, was his ultimately successful campaign against

click-knives. In 1954 he surrounded the Commons by brandishing such a weapon in the House. The Home Secretary was quickly intimidated into tightening restrictions on their sale. The incident is well-remembered because my colleague Laurie Weston, then a young journalist in Leicester, was an accomplice before the act. It was he who suggested the idea to Janner, and who bought the knife on his behalf.

## Front-runner

Among the runners in Sunday's London Marathon PHS's money is on Richard Paine. I do not take him to win, but I hope he finishes because he has come from Cairn to raise money by running the race for the Brooke Hospital for Animals in Egypt. This institution originated in the philanthropy of Dorothy Brooke, the wife of a British cavalry officer, who was appalled at the fate of 22,000 British war horses sold to the Egyptians at the end of the First World War and worked there for long years afterwards.

The hospital's clinics are still hard at work in Cairo, Luxor and Alexandria, tending as many as 9,000 broken-down equines a year.

## Artistic thanks

The parish of Upton-cum-Chelvey in Slough has devised a pretty gift to thank Rosalind Runcie, the pianist wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is giving a recital in aid of their church restoration fund in the

## THE TIMES DIARY



Robin Borwick, founder and vice-president of the Donkey Breed Society, reacted eagerly to my mention that the Shropshire and West Midlands Agricultural Society

show would hold classes for "cattle, horses, sheep, even donkeys". Since 1967, he says, his society has encouraged its members to breed only from the best stock, which has resulted in the virtual elimination of uneven donkeys. This, I suppose, is what they call asinine humour.

large Victorian church of St Mary's tomorrow. Instead of a bunch of flowers, she will be given a presentation goblet engraved by the artist, Kate Richardson, who is the daughter of a previous rector and was herself married in St Mary's.

Is it a deliberate refinement of the torture of travel by tube that London Transport places cigarette advertisements in almost every non-smoking compartment on the Central Line?

## Save the king

Even in Togo there was no getting away from the Falkland Islands dispute. While in Lome I met Michael Dunn, a Californian expedition guide, who returned from the islands earlier this year. His principle concern was that Britain's bombing raids on the Stanley airport runway might have damaged East Falkland's recently re-established colonies of king penguins in reserves at Volunteer Point and on Kidney Island nearby. The kings are the largest and most beautiful of the

islands' five breeding penguin species, and were previously subject to depredation in the whaling days when their oil was used in lamps. Ecologically, Dunn said, the Falklands are as valuable as the Galapagos.

## Visitors barred

Dating back to her childhood in Buenos Aires, Jill Goulder has an Argentine version of Monopoly. It is called Estanciero, and features Argentine provinces. The chief difference from the English version of the game is that there is no "Visiting" in gaol. If you land on gaol you are behind bars and that's it.

## Out for the count

Hay-fever sufferers in the Irish Republic have been caught up in the Falklands affair. The pollen trap used by the Department of Botany at Dublin's Trinity College to take the daily pollen count, normally published at this time of year, was lent to the British Antarctic Survey team in the South Atlantic and its return

has been hampered by hostilities. It will not now reach Dublin until May 19.

## Free flight

A housemaster at Culford School, Bury St Edmunds, has been making a study of pigeon post. John Humphries tells me that pigeon-fanciers of the Suffolk and Essex Border Federation hire a lorry, a driver and a liberator to take their pigeons in a three-day tour to the north of Scotland. The cost per bird, at 38p, comfortably undercuts the Post Office.

The birds' own performance on the return journey is even more impressive. Not only do they travel free, but with a following wind a bird released in Thurso at 5 am can be back in its Ipswich loft at any time from 3.30 pm.

A heaven-ward glance while walking along Old Bailey reveals that Justice's scale pans are leaky. The sky can be seen through holes in the centre of each pan in the gilt statue's balance. The Central Criminal Court assures me that Justice is not giving short weight. The holes are there to let rainwater out.

## Polite mantel

Debutant Etiquette and Modern Manners appears in plebeian paperback today, published by Pan at a not too impudent £2.50. Elsie Burch Donald, the editor, tells me that there has been no argument with her editors since the book was first published last year, save some well-publicized

617 you wash up during the Falklands, I'll dry during the snookery



outrage over sleeping arrangements for unmarried couples, which need not concern us here.

That I do wonder is whether anybody took any notice of her advice that invitations should be kept off the drawing-room mantelpiece. PHS's mantel carries nothing but a stopped clock, some half-burnt candles, assorted ornaments and a few old corks, but in homes I visit I still see the fireplace surrounded by ostentatiously displayed cards. This curious custom of display is well-entrenched in upper circles, though it is plainly liable to hurt neighbours and friends who see that the recipients have been bitten where they them-

selves would not be welcome. There is I believe, some mention in Trollope, though the mantelpiece there may have been in the seamy privacy of a bedroom or the like.

PHS's polite advice to those who are still flaunting cards is: "Do as I do. Get a date-file, and keep it by your writing desk."

## Just playing dead

Chris Galer, who sent his manuscript *Thin Ice* after it had languished in the drama production offices of BBC Radio Wales for a year, has now received a reply from Cardiff. It is a mourning card, inscribed on the front: "In Deepest Sympathy". Inside it says: "Thoughts of deepest sympathy are with you at this sad time."

All is not lost, though. The producer's secretary explains that the script is still alive, though neglected because her boss has had pleurisy. Galer is now sending the producer a "Get Well Soon" card.

## Diary quiz

In this week's news: 1. How was it that APTs tipped both off the track and down the pan? 2. Does an attempt to disguise garlicky breath with peppermint end in failure? 3. What were Gimcrack's winnings at the Two-Thousand Guineas meeting at Newmarket? 4. Who has been reliving her agonies in America? Answers here on Monday.

PHS

reception: many will the Pope? Clifford Longley



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ Telephone: 01-837 1234

## BEYOND THE BATTLE

It is now evident that intense diplomatic activity is taking place in an attempt to find a negotiated solution to the Falklands crisis. In itself that is all to the good. What is required is a just settlement, and it would obviously be better if that can be brought about without the shedding of any more blood. But it should not be assumed that any negotiated settlement must be its very nature be a just one. There are certain criteria that must be satisfied if negotiations are not simply to offer diplomatic clothing for a failure to enforce a principle.

The first criterion was set out by Mrs Thatcher at question time yesterday: "there can be no ceasefire unless it is accompanied by withdrawal which is fully and properly supervised." Other- wise a ceasefire would simply provide a lull in the conflict which would not only leave the Argentine in full control of the islands but would also enable it to pour in supplies so that its troops would be much better equipped to withstand a further blockade if the ceasefire were to break down. This would mean that a ceasefire, far from being the first step towards a reasonable settlement, would remove all military pressure from the Argentine to make any further concessions.

Mrs Thatcher also said: "there must be a process as to the timing, sequence and verification of events." The phraseology is interesting. It is not quite the same as saying that the Argentine forces must clear out of the islands before anything else can be discussed. It allows for the possibility of a phased procedure, with interlocking arrangements, provided that Britain was not required to act simply on the basis of good faith. There would have to be adequate proof that at any particular stage they had actually done what they had undertaken to do.

These are questions requiring delicate judgment. It would be unwise for British public opinion to seek in advance to tie the hands of their negotiators on points of detail. Some flexibility will be required if there is to be a chance of reaching any agreement. But it is right to insist that whatever arrangements for withdrawal are made must be absolutely precise. It will be necessary to take great pains to ensure that what is thought to be a phased settlement does not turn out to be an unconditional ceasefire.

For the longer term there are a number of possibilities. It is not, and has never been

throughout this crisis, part of the British case to insist that the Falklands should remain permanently under British jurisdiction. This is not a colonial conflict. What is at issue is the right of the islanders not to be forced to join another state or even to submit to its overall control against their will. This is a right that must be observed if any settlement is to be regarded as a just one.

That does not mean that the Falklanders alone should be able to choose their future constitutional status, or that they need to be involved in every stage of the negotiation; nor does it mean that their previous constitutional status cannot be changed. A lasting settlement, which must be in their interest as much as anybody else's, may in the long term require that the issue should be internationalised in one way or another to achieve their greater security, which is the universal aim. One possibility would clearly be some form of United Nations trusteeship. But whatever is agreed must ultimately receive the endorsement of the islanders themselves, freely given, in circumstances of undisputed freedom. That should not be too much to ask of an international organisation that subscribes to the principle of self-determination.

## THE ITALIAN REVIVAL

The election of Signor Ciriaco de Mita as Secretary-General of the Italian Christian Democrat party probably brings closer the end of Signor Giovanni Spadolini's government founded on the co-operation of Christian Democrats and Socialists. Signor de Mita represents the wing of Christian Democracy which is hostile to the ambitions of the Socialist leader, Signor Bettino Craxi, and willing to accept a new arrangement with the Communists (short of giving them seats inside the cabinet) in order to recapture the premiership for the Christian Democrats, who believe that as the largest party they have a right to it.

Italian governmental politics are a bizarre and byzantine game whose details are followed only by the immediate players, while the rest of the world finds it difficult even to pretend to take an interest. Only occasionally are the contours of Italian politics thrown into sudden and lurid relief by a dramatic spotlight, as happened in 1975 when the Communists seemed on the threshold of government, or again in 1978 during the appalling calvary of Aldo Moro. Even then, attention soon wandered. The drama itself was stark enough, but the reactions of the Italian political forces to it were too complex for an impatient foreign opinion to grasp.

## AMERICA'S EXPOSED ECONOMY

The problem of the dollar has dominated the international monetary scene for more than ten years. It is the dollar's role in the world monetary system that makes the rest of the world so keenly aware of what is happening to domestic American economic policy and interest rates. The one country which has shown little interest in the dollar's exchange rate is the United States. The Reagan Administration has stressed again and again that it will not intervene in foreign exchange markets to change the value of the dollar.

Now a group of the world's leading experts on the world's financial system, including some of the most influential central bankers, has recommended that the United States should reconsider its attitude. Their views ought to be taken to heart by the American Administration and should be pressed on Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer when the two men meet in London today.

The suggestion comes from the Group of Thirty, a "think tank" led by Dr Johannes

Witteveen, the former Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund. The group says that the United States should show greater willingness to intervene in foreign exchange markets and should cut its budget deficit. It says that the United States economy is no longer capable of being run as if it were self-contained. Other nations in the world have had to learn the painful lessons of interdependence since the war. Until recently the sheer size of the American economy seemed to exempt it from this law.

A greater openness to international trade also means that American inflation is more susceptible to big falls in the value of the dollar. It is tempting for governments to want to cut down on the number of economic variables which they are trying to control. But the United States now has great reasons of its own for wanting the external value of the dollar to stay relatively stable if it wants the internal value of its currency to stay stable. In that sense, the United States has become an open economy in the way that small countries such as

Britain and Sweden are open economies.

The case for saying that a stable dollar is in America's interests is thus very strong. Opponents of intervention do not usually deny this overtly any longer. But they say that any intervention is bound to end up destabilising foreign exchange markets, not stabilising them. There is no basis for this assertion. It is true that intervention alone cannot fight against underlying forces. But properly used it can do something to cut down the often irrational swings which occur in markets with floating exchange rates. The Administration ought to open its mind to this possibility.

It should also, as the report stresses, ensure that it does not end up with a tough domestic monetary policy and a loose fiscal policy pulling in opposite directions. The signs of a compromise between the White House and Senate Republicans on taxes in the coming years are an encouraging step in the right direction. But further progress to cut the deficit is going to be needed if the markets are going to be convinced.

By the time the Law Lords had found in the auditor's favour, the surcharges totalled over £50,000. But the councillors never paid the surcharges and never went to prison. The Minister of Health quashed the surcharges and in turn got himself into trouble with the law. The detailed story is told in a recent book *Poplartism* by Noreen Branson.

Yours etc,  
ROBERT LATHAM,  
10 Albert Street,  
Camden Town, NW1.

## Poplar councillors

From Mr Robert Latham.

Sir, Your leader on the Camden Council (April 30) implies that the Poplar councillors went to prison in the 1920s because they refused to pay the surcharge imposed on them for introducing the £4 minimum wage for their employees.

This was not the case. They were imprisoned for refusing to levy the rate imposed by the London County Council. This enabled them to spend more in

helping the unemployed while simultaneously reducing the local rate burden on their electors. They emerged from prison victorious since the rating system was radically transformed as a result of their protest.

The case of the £4 minimum wage paid to the employees came a little later. Although the law provided that the council could pay such wages "as they think fit", the district auditor did not think that the words in the law meant what they said, and neither did the judges when the case went to the courts.

## The Falklands: seeking a diplomatic solution

From Mr Peter Vis

Sir, With the saddening loss of the Sheffield, and more particularly the 30 men's lives, there is an even greater urgency for an ending of hostilities in the South Atlantic. It further stresses the need for a ceasefire, and for a new peaceful initiative to be taken. The alternative seems only to be a continuation, and very possibly a further escalation, of this state of undeclared warfare which can only lead to a further loss of life. Surely more people are recognising now that the hostilities are getting increasingly out of proportion.

But the need for the Government itself to call for a ceasefire needs to be stressed all the more in view of the increasing difficulty for Britain to come out of the crisis "with honour", and without increasing the already excessively high price paid in terms of human life. With British lives having been lost the Government must feel that there is an even greater pressure to achieve something which has not yet been achieved by previous negotiations. There is now too great a danger of the Government adopting the political inclination to go on, and even escalate action, rather than draw back and give a negotiated settlement another chance.

To go on would be to undertake a hazardous political and military gamble. It is not too late to negotiate; in fact, to do so is imperative if more lives are not to be lost. The Government should instigate moves for a ceasefire and recognise that flexibility in our negotiating position, may be the less spectacular, but undoubtedly more expedient solution. Please let us learn the tragic lesson of Tuesday's action.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

PETER VIS,

St Catharine's College,

Cambridge.

May 5.

From Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Selby Oak (Conservative)

Sir, I have been surprised that usually intelligent people have been saying that they disapprove of Argentina's action in the Falklands and that it was right to send a task force, and yet immediately casualties arise it becomes wrong.

In the history of conflict, there has never been a painless war because there is an inability of able, rational people to control irrational events, and all Falklanders must always be to thinking people. The trouble is with conflicts as with this one, they are always started by irrational governments.

The situation we face is that we cannot deny this overtly, the intensity and the scale of the war, therefore unless Argentina can be brought, not to unconditional surrender but to unconditional negotiations, we must prepare ourselves for more sacrifices and a time scale that we are not contemplating at the present time of course.

George Ball, a distinguished American wrote to Robert McNamara, the Secretary of Defence during the Vietnam crisis in October 1964, words that

all of our aggressors and defenders should have on our desks:

"It is the nature of escalation that each move passes the option to the other side, while at the same time the party which seems to be losing will be tempted to keep raising the ante. To the extent that the response to a move can be controlled, that move is probably ineffective. If the move is effective it may not be possible to control or accurately anticipate the response. Once on the tiger's back we cannot be sure of picking the place to dismount."

These comments were true then and they are true even to the Falklands Islands conflict today. One thing, however, certain, the Government cannot be faulted in their resolve and conduct and deserve our backing for the instant recognition they have properly made that if democracies are not prepared for sacrifices and shy away from casualties we will all inevitably eventually live under dictatorships of one kind or another.

Your obedient servant,  
ANTHONY BEAUMONT-DARK,  
House of Commons,  
May 5.

From Mr T. E. Wilkerson

Sir, On his most recent return from Washington the Foreign Secretary claimed yet again that one of his aims in the present dispute with Argentina is to show that armed aggression must not succeed. May I venture to disagree?

It is simply not our business to deliver moral homilies to the Argentine or to the rest of the world, particularly when the homilies are delivered by an enormous task force. The only question that should concern us is whether the British inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are to be governed, against their will, by the military forces of a thoroughly nasty regime.

Yours faithfully,  
T. E. WILKERSON,  
Department of Philosophy,  
University of Nottingham,  
Nottingham.

May 4.

From Canon Eric James

Sir, Would it help negotiations on the Falklands on the crucial question of sovereignty to remember the words of the Foreign Office minister, Lord Trefgarne, speaking for the Government on the British Nationality Bill, first, last July: "I must remind your Lordships that however strong the affection the fact remains that the Falklands are not and never have been a part of the United Kingdom."

And, secondly, last October, on the same Bill: "We cannot grant British citizenship to the peoples of one dependent territory and expect the others to stand idly by."

Clearly the Government did not want the Falklands to be British at any rate, not fully British.

Yours sincerely,  
ERIC JAMES, Hon-Director,  
Christian Action,  
43 Holywell Hill,  
St Albans,  
Hertfordshire.

May 5.

From Captain P. D. Tatton-Brown, R.N.

Sir, It is clear from the Falkland Islands crisis that nuclear weapons cannot be used to protect British territory. We cannot use them to get Argentina to remove her troops from British soil. So a small country without nuclear weapons is not helpless in the face of a bigger one with them. So much for nuclear blackmail.

Will our politicians ever learn that nuclear warheads are the most useless weapons. They cannot be used to fight a war. Not only is there no sensible use for them whatsoever, no sane person could ever find one; they are too ghastly.

If our politicians now learn this there is some hope for peace.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER TATTON-BROWN,  
Grasspark,  
Brayford,  
Barnstaple, Devon.

May 4.

From Dr Christopher de Hamel

Sir, Dr Lotte Hellings (April 24) makes several wise points of caution concerning the suggestion in the Gotheby catalogue of the Donauerschilling sale of manuscripts on June 21 that faint printed initials in a well defined group of Dutch manuscript Books of Hours may be connected with the famous legend of a Dutchman experimenting with stamping printed letters around 1430, the approximate date of the manuscripts in question.

I should like to make two small points: the first is that the existence of printed marks in this group of manuscripts was first noticed by Professor J. D. Farquhar, to whom credit should go for this remarkable observation. The second is that by associating the marks with the old Coster story I had no thought of undermining the certain fact that printing with movable type was devised in Mainz around 1450.

The new hypothesis, if true, would in fact nearly explain away the foolish Coster legend.

Laurence Coster is said to have used stamped letters for making books and it was always supposed with hindsight that this meant whole books or block books. No

trace of one has ever been found. The manuscripts, however, are indeed books made with stamped letters, and their unique nature and date and approximate localisation corresponds with the legend. Perhaps it originally meant nothing more than this. If so, we can dismiss it at last.

Dr Hellings is quite right to say that there is now no proof that the illuminator's workshop was in Haarlem. It could also have been Utrecht, 30 miles away, although the style is not typical of that city.

But one cannot say that the appearance of St Donatian in the calendar points only to Haarlem, as this saint, like Bavo, Remigius and others, occurs in all medieval Netherlands calendars.

If the manuscript had not included St Bavo (patron saint of Haarlem and of Ghent) one could have concluded Haarlem as the place of manufacture. As it is, all one can say is that if the Coster legend could refer only to printed letters of this curious type, then this group of manuscript Books of Hours is consistent with the story.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER DE HAMEL,  
Southey Park, Bernet & Co,  
Bloomfield Place,  
off New Bond Street, W1.

May 4.

Down by the riverside

From Mr Terence Bendixson

Sir, The President of the Metropolitan Planning Officers' Society (May 3) offers a choice in Thames-side development between an "overall approach" and "a series of piecemeal decisions", and he criticises Mr Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, for being a piecemealer. I am not averse to all town planning but when I stand on the steps of the Tate Gallery and look at the even-topped row of office blocks on the other side of the river (undoubtedly the outcome of an overall approach), I am struck by the awfulness of too much overall planning combined with mediocre architecture.

What sort of overall control might be appropriate on south Thames-side? I would suggest that it be confined to producing a continuous walkway, not necessarily always tree-lined or of the same width, and to limiting the mass (not the massing) that developers are allowed to put on their sites. The latter might be called greed control.

Beyond this delight for the eyes — surely the province of architects rather than controllers — should be the main objective. Mr Heseltine seems to recognise this and the competition for the Vauxhall Bridge site shows the fruits of such an approach.

Those convinced of the need for town planners to have the last word in development will say that the cost of eye-catching shapes and rooflines has been made possible because Mr Heseltine has relaxed greed control. This seems to be the case, but given the choice between less profitable development plus nondescript slabs and, for instance, tiers of baroque pavilions containing more rentable space (Mr Terence Farrell's competition entry, article, April 23) most people would, I suspect, prefer to look at the latter.

Delightful architecture has to be paid for. Failure to accept this proposition leads only to drab buildings. They may cost less money but over the years we all pay for them with sore eyes.

Yours faithfully,  
TERENCE BENDIXSON,  
18 Ifield Road, SW10.

May 4.

From Miss Mary Renault

Sir, While I appreciated the friendliness with which Dame Hackman (April 19) reviewed my television interview by David Sweetman, may I point out that I never did, or said I did, write my first novel about Greece without having been there?

Even the imposing examples set by Grote and Gibbon did not convince me that this would be a good thing. I began it before going, and said so; after writing a couple of chapters I set out, and stayed in Greece for some months. Some of *The Last of the Wine* was actually written in Athens.

Yours etc,  
MARY RENAUD,  
3 Atholl Road,  
Cape 8001,  
South Africa.

April 29

## Use of animals in circuses

From Mr A. C. W. Hart

Sir, Miss Mary Chipperfield (May 3) attempts to justify the continued use of animals in circuses by referring to the wider issue of unemployment. The exploitation of animals cannot be accepted on such specious grounds. Animal abuses are never justified because they provide someone with a living.

The legislative process is a long one. There is further delay before enforcement. Circuses should have ample time in which to make suitable provision for their animals. The onus is firmly on the circus industry. It created the problem in the first place. The difficulties would be eased substantially if the zoos and safari parks did not provide animals for circuses.

On prosecutions, it is the RSPCA's view that existing legislation is inadequate and needs up-dating. Miss Chipperfield cannot be suggesting that there have been no advances in ethological and veterinary sciences since the Protection of Animals Act in 1911.

The anomalies of the law will be high-lighted when the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 is enforced. Zoos will then be under an obligation to keep their animals in regulated conditions. Circuses will remain exempted and may continue to house animals in sub-standard conditions.

The RSPCA and increasing numbers of the public regard as wholly unacceptable.

Yours faithfully,  
ANELAY HART,  
Chairman of the Council,  
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,  
Horsham,  
West Sussex.

May 4.

John Walters case

Mr Peter Hill and Mr Martin Young

Sir, Our film about John Walters in the Rough Justice series was not at all incorrect in its reference to forensic evidence.

Dr Raymond Grant (letter, April 29) will recall that evidence was brought at the trial that a laboratory liaison officer was seen by a police witness handling the clothes of both accused and victim while he moved them from plastic to paper bags ready for subsequent analysis. The defence suggested, as we said in the film, that this was how the fibres from John Walters' clothes could have come to be on the clothes of the victim, Miss Auliffe.

We are, of course, aware of the techniques used to analyse the cotton fibres. Our film included the main points of the forensic evidence presented at the trial and repeated in Dr Williams' letter. We did not dispute the analysis and neither did Dr Julius Grant, himself a leading fibres expert and forensic scientist.

What Dr Grant did do, however, was to raise the important question about why there were no fibres to be found on the victim's clothes from the torn synthetic lining of Mr Walters' jacket.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HILL,  
MARTIN YOUNG,  
British Broadcasting  
Corporation,  
Line Grove Studios, W10.

May 4.

Tent pegging

From Colonel Iain Ferguson

Sir, During a recent visit to Pakistan to watch the national tent pegging championships I asked the Commanding Officer of the President's Bodyguard (The Household Cavalry) about the origin of the words "tent pegging".

He without hesitation assured me that the sport is so called after the manner in which the Pathans attacked, by night, British Army camps during the operations on the North West Frontier.

The first wave of attackers rode into the camp throwing burning brands among the tents. As soon as the canvas was ablaze the second wave rode in and, with their lances, took the pegs out of the ground so bringing the burning tent down on the sleeping soldiers.

This summer a team of eight Pakistani tribesmen will be coming to the Royal Tournament to demonstrate their incredible skill at this sport. But are they really the originals? While I have my doubts I have found nobody who can give any other explanation for the name.

Yours faithfully,  
IAIN FERGUSON,  
Director of the Royal Tournament,  
Horse Guards,  
Whitehall, SW1.

May 4.

Novel on Greece

From Miss Mary Renault

Sir, While I appreciated the friendliness with which Dame Hackman (April 19) reviewed my television interview by David Sweetman, may I point out that I never did, or said I did, write my first novel about Greece without having been there?

Even the imposing examples set by Grote and Gibbon did not convince me that this would be a good thing. I began it before going, and said so; after writing a couple of chapters I set out, and stayed in Greece for some months. Some of *The Last of the Wine* was actually written in Athens.

Yours etc,  
MARY RENAUD,  
3 Atholl Road,  
Cape 8001,  
South Africa.

April 29



## The Proms French direction

The flavour of the year for the eighth season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts is French. The concerts, which take place from July 16 to September 11, open with Berlioz's opera *The Trojans*, performed in two parts, on July 16 and 18. It will have an international cast, including Jessye Norman, Richard Cassilly, Felicity Palmer and Pierre Thau, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra will be conducted by Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, with John Matheson as associate conductor.

Another highlight among the score of French works will be the first UK performance of Boulez's *Repons*, conducted by the composer. This complicated electronic work, in which parts are programmed by a computer, will be performed in the Royal Halls, London, on September 6, and played twice, with the audience sitting on the floor in different parts of the hall.

Dame Janet Baker will be one of the eminent artists at the Proms, making her last opera appearance in a concert performance of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera's production of Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* on August 11. Yehudi Menuhin will be playing Bartok's second violin concerto (July 26) and Teresa Berganza makes her debut at the Proms on July 24.

Six composers have works given their world premieres during the season, including five BBC commissions. Hugh Wood, Nigel Osborne, Richard Rodney Bennett and Nareh Sahal have all written works for Proms 82, while Roger Smalley's *Symphony in one movement*, originally commissioned for last year's Proms, also receives its first performance. The sixth premiere will be John Hamilton's *Symphony No. 3*.

James Loughran will again conduct the last night, which breaks with the all-British tradition by including three French pieces, and a traditionalist will note that Beethoven's Choral Symphony will not be played on the penultimate evening. It is only a temporary omission, however, for Mr Robert Posen, by the BBC's Controller of Music, did not want to miss the opportunity of presenting Beethoven's *Nissa Solemnis*, conducted by Sir Georg Solti, which replaces it.

Christopher Warman

## Minimalism carried to seductive limits

My Dinner With André (A)

Gate, Bloomsbury

Clean Slate (AA)

Curzon

No Mercy, No Future

ICA

The very least that can be said for Louis Malle is that he never repeats himself. There is little apparent connection, apart from high skill and a particular and compelling directness of observation, to link the succession of his work, from *Les Amants* to *Viva Maria*, and in more recent years, *Lacombe, Lucien* and *Black Moon*. *Pretty Baby* and *Atlantic City*, *My Dinner With André*, certainly, is unlike any other film. It carries minimalism to its limits: apart from brief framing scenes of New York streets and subway, and the arrival of the principal characters at a ritzy restaurant (with trio, lowering maître and French haute cuisine), the entire action takes place at a dinner table where two men eat and converse.

The conversation was synthesized out of actual conversations recorded over a period of time by the two actors. Wallace Shawn is a plump, picky, shrill-voiced man, a playwright and reluctant actor. André Gregory, slight, serene, charming, with something of the hollow look of John Carradine, was an avant-garde New York theatre director until he embarked on the spiritual adventures he describes here, in what is for the most part a monologue.

On the way to the appointment, Shawn confesses his apprehensions: things he hears about Gregory, since his withdrawal from the theatre, suggest he has become sick or strange; leaving his family to wander off to India, Tibet and other places of mystical pilgrimage; or weeping in the street at the thought of Ingrid Bergman in *Autumn Sonata*, saying "I can live in my art but not in my life".

Our own first sight of Gregory seems to confirm Shawn's fears, as he launches off, with a sear of gleaming eye, into tales of his admiration for Jerzy Grotowski; and how the Polish stage director similarly abandoned the theatre in favour of life; and how he has partaken of experiments in improvisation and free expression in Polish forests.

Quickly, though, Gregory's charm, his skill as narrator and his



Messianic mass-murderer and mistress: Philippe Noiret and Isabelle Huppert in "Clean Slate"

evident sincerity and seriousness take command, and make us share the excitement, the discoveries and the wreckage of his spiritual odyssey. We discover in him a good, clever, decent man who has shared a quite common experience of disillusion, with himself, his work, his relationships, the world around him; but who has, in a way that is not common, sought for other ways. The ways may be dead-ends or deceptions, but they represent an effort. He describes his discoveries of India and Tibet; eating sand in the Sahara with a Japanese Buddhist; his time in the Findhorn commune in Scotland, where he chatted to plants and refrigerators; being buried alive in Montana. He explores all the systems in Colin Wilson's philosophy, and more; and finds in them some laughter as well as ecstasy.

Gregory's search is recognizably only an extreme instance of the quest of those hundreds of eager Americans who might find any day — sunburnt, tattered and hung about with haversacks — on the beaten tracks of European classical culture or Indian mysticism; but Gregory brings to the quest, beyond that specially Ameri-

can openness to experience, his intelligence, maturity, sensitivity — and dinner-table eloquence.

Shawn, sometimes a bit too obviously, is cast in the role of the little guy, the realist to Gregory's mystic and idealist, pleading the necessity of reality, the compensations of the here and now and the reassurance an electric blanket can give on a winter's night. Both as a dialogue and as a film exercise *My Dinner With André* proves a seductive tour de force.

Bertrand Tavernier's *Coup de Torchon* (shown here as *Clean Slate*) is a piquant bit of cross-fertilization. It is based on a novel, *Pop, 1280*, by a pulpy American writer, Jim Thompson, not highly rated in his homeland but much esteemed by French connoisseurs of the roman noir. Tavernier has translated his story of a not too competent sheriff, who one day discovers that murder makes for better civic order, from the American South and the teens of this century to colonialist Africa in 1938.

He has, moreover, very deliberately sought the flavour of the Thirties, with its feeling for local colour and larger-than-life characters. To this end he has chosen as

collaborators the 78-year-old writer Jean Aurenche, who co-scripted with Pierre Bost some of the most famous films of the Forties, and the 76-year-old designer Alexander Trauner, whose film work has included *Le Quai des Brumes*, *Le Jour se Lève* and *Les Enfants du Paradis*. Between them Tavernier, Trauner, the photographer Pierre William Glenn and their Senegalese locations succeed in evoking the atmosphere, the arid land and the killing, nerve-racking boredom of colonial life.

The eccentric personages who people this outpost are led by Philippe Noiret as the ignorant, incompetent and cowardly police chief, who discovers a messianic and cathartic role for himself as mass murderer. His co-stars clearly enjoy the chance to play the luridly colourful denizens of this decayed corner of empire: an unusually lively Isabelle Huppert is the policeman's mistress and a characteristically caustic Stéphane Audrey his wife.

Helmut Sanders-Brahms's *No Mercy, No Future* (the original German title *Die Bekehrte*) means "The one who is touched" purports to be a case history — the story of a schizophrenic girl who wrote to the director and asked her to make a film of her story.

The girl, Veronika, spends her life in and out of mental hospitals (which seem neither to have supervision to avoid constant escapes nor to offer any sort of treatment). Out, she wanders the seedy streets of Berlin, seeking sexual partners from among the underprivileged and unfortunate. Blacks, migrant workers, the aged, crippled or mentally sick. Generally she surprises her pick-ups by asking eagerly if they are Jesus. In a written note on the film, the director explains that the girl "doesn't give away pieces of advice, aims or leaflets, she gives again and again, never tiring, her own self... to go and fill the gap in society with her body, that is, with her physical and mental vulnerability, to melt the huge iceberg of this world society with her little body and soul — all she has".

This rather bizarre sense of social purpose is rather less evident in the film itself, which serves mainly to give the actress Elizabeth Stepanek a showy gamut of mad scenes, ranging from glum nymphomania to pelvic ravings and special-effects delirium. Miss Sanders-Brahms (whose earlier films have included *Shirin's Wedding* and *Germany Pale Mother*) is a distinctive talent but is handicapped by the urge shared with other women film-makers (Liliana Cavani, Lina Wertmüller) to outdo the fellows in shock and sensation. Scenes of massive gynaecological haemorrhage and the slaughter of a hen are not for the over-squeamish.

David Robinson

Richard and Linda Thompson

Dominion

Like Miles Davis, and unlike any other rock guitarist, Richard Thompson can play a single note which makes the journey, the weather, the price of admission and the support act all seem bearable. Such a moment occurred on Wednesday night during "For Shame of Doing Wrong", when he set his Fender Stratocaster to squealing like stung bagpipes and inserted a couple of inconspicuous downward-curling notes, sighs amid the harangue.

Thompson occupies a position in British rock similar to that of Ry Cooder in America: both are students of ethnic music who see no reason to contrain their love of the pure pop with which they grew up. Their task has been to achieve a reconciliation of the two, and each has grown in strength as he has come closer to the goal. Thompson's rare London appearance was not entirely satisfying, partly because his background in folk clubs gives him a problem, once shared by Cooder, of communicating with larger audiences, but it confirmed the persistence of his vision and ambition.

He was joined by his wife, Linda Thompson, who once languished in the shadow of her contemporary, the late Sandy Denny, sang with less precision but greater expressiveness than I remember intensifying the tragedy of "The Dimming of the Day" and "Down Where the Drunkards Roll". Her husband's voice, a penny-plain but affecting instrument, was least successful when attempting unmelodic tempo songs like "Honky-Tonk Blues", "The Backstreet Slide" and "The Price of Love", and most appealing when used with Linda's to create an antipodal quietude, as in "The Price of Love" and "The Price of Love".

Richard Williams



Attraction of opposites: the Thompsons

## Television Acquired gravity

There have been plays, there has been snooker, there have been forlornly irrelevant party political broadcasts, there has been family viewing in its usual bland abundance, but over the past few days all these things have had to tip-toe round that very different family viewing, the news.

As the week has progressed the regular bulletins have developed qualities to match the gravity of the situation. The BBC and ITN have been forced to use identical film stock, and their commentaries have often been virtually interchangeable. Both have experimented desperately with graphics, with ITN succumbing briefly to the lure of space invader gimmickry. Both have reported responsibly from Buenos Aires, intelligently from Washington and sensitively from Portsmouth.

ITN's modest back-up from *Falklands Extra* has, on the other hand, inevitably been upstaged by *Newsnight*'s impressive capacity to stick close to the heart of the

national and international debates. There has been no tabloid jingoism.

Nothing in recent memory can compare with the ghastly chill which swept through the nation on Tuesday night as John Humphreys's confident introduction to the nine o'clock news was interrupted by the deathly tones of Ian McDonald at the Ministry of Defence. How many men was the Sheffield carrying? How serious was the strategic loss? We watched mesmerized until the awful questions were finally answered. Again and again throughout the evening came the Ministry announcement, again and again the little red dart sped across the water in the training film.

Travellers in Time (BBC2) was a little oasis of peace. Everest, said the leader of the British expedition of 1922, was "a mountain made of reverence". Lovingly re-edited with the aid of their diaries, this film gave a wonderful sense of what it must have been like to participate in that heroic failure.

Just to remind us of the passage of time, one of the original oxygen cylinders was dumped on a table with a heavy clunk, and then we were off on ancient trains, swinging across rope bridges, doling out Homburg hats to lamas, watching religious dances, meeting pilgrims marching on their stomachs, drinking butter tea made by smiling bundles of greasy rags, and receiving the blessing of a hermit incarnation of the god Chronogaysay who was pleased because the Britons' goal was simply to get closer to heaven.

Sherpas sank into screams under 120-pound burdens, glaciers looked like the opening set for *Superman*, clouds rushed satanically away from the summit. Mallory (who died there two years later) said his memories were "of a dazed mind incapable of acute perception". Frostdite, windburn, toffee and quails in pate de foie gras were the final rewards.

Michael Church

**'A TRIUMPH'**  
GLENDIA JACKSON  
GEORGINA HALE  
**'A MASTERPIECE'**  
SUMMIT CONFERENCE  
LYRIC THEATRE  
SHAFTESBURY AVE 01 437 3686  
Credit Card Phone Bookings Accepted

VICTORIA WOOD AND THE GREAT SOPRENDO  
IN  
**Funny Turns**  
Comedy to conjure with  
AT THE DUCHESS THEATRE 01-836 8243  
Red Price Prev. May 10 & 11 8.0 OPENS MAY 12 7.30

## Theatre Stuck fast, but not sunk yet

On the Rocks

Chichester

I Shaw's 1933 extravaganza seemed timely when the *Mermaid* revived it in the mid-70s, what now is the worst of a piece featuring mass unemployment, strike-breaking legislation and an admiral with an "eye on the Gulf" demanding new warships?

Now, as in 1975, the reason for revival is the hope that Shaw's diagnosis of the Depression might shed some light on our present troubles. And, as before, the main message of the play is one of comfort. Fifty years on, Britain is still in the same bickering, class-ridden mud, still stuck on the same rocks, but not yet sunk.

Like all Shaw's political comedies, *On the Rocks* occupies a privileged zone: in this case 10 Downing Street. It begins with violence from the outside, and in the middle the arbiters of the nation's destiny talk and decide nothing. The particular irony in this case is that Shaw had arrived at the opinion that the time for talking had run out and what the country needed was a strong man. As the idea he

had in mind was Russia, it being his view that "liquidation by the OGPU is not punishment: it is only weeding the garden". It is just as well that his dramatic instinct sabotaged his political thinking. But the result certainly is to make the piece seem more frivolously garrulous than usual.

Its plot, like that of *The Apple Cart*, turns on the fraudulent unworkability of democratic government. Like Proteus in that play, Sir Arthur Chavender, heads a Liberal-Conservative coalition hamstrung by internal strife; and like King Magnus he surfaces at half-time with an unparliamentary plan for getting the country off the rocks. In his case it comes after retreating to a Welsh sanctuary to devour the collected works of Marx and takes the form of wholesale nationalization and the expropriation of parasites.

It miraculously wins support from everyone except the Conservative leader and the working class, who are incensed at the plans for compulsory labour.

At this point, theory and reality coincide. Having placed victory in his hero's hands, Shaw cannot bear to face the consequences; and, with the sound of a deflating

balloon, all the PM's supporters troop off in pursuit of the defuncting Conservative leader (hitherto built up as a bullying fool) leaving Chavender to retire for a future of golf and the pious hope that one day his plan will come true, but "I shall hate the man who will carry it through". One salutes Shaw's humanitarian response, but it torpedoes the play.

However, it is imagination, not sensibility, that scuppers the plot. *On the Rocks* contains many echoes from Shaw's other work, but it also shows his anarchic comic gift doing spirited battle with his authoritarian opinions. The separate factions are orchestrated with effortless fluency and the ability to spring surprises.

Jack Emery and Patrick Garland's production excels in this kind of orchestral colour — pirating Lockwood West's mild, baby-faced Admiral against Michael Sadler's supercilious Scottish youngster from the Board of Trade and Nigel Stock's nobly dilapidated Duke. The passage where Mr Stock

faces a hilariously enraged class adversary (Cheryl Kennedy) and eagerly confirms all her accusations against his crofter-hounding forbears is one where the Shavian spirit bursts through with all the old generosity.

Keith Michell plays Chavender from first to last as a political madman. That puts him in undisputed control of the first act, particularly when he gets the stage to himself to improvise windy speeches on the sanctity of the family to an enraptured audience of invisible clerics. It lets him down after the Marxist change of heart, particularly when confronted by Aubrey Woods's grim police chief and Arthur English as the old forelock-tugging revolutionary Hipney — a part calculated to steal every scene he gets and played here with a very conviction that goes well beyond the comic boundaries. Congratulations to Pamela Howard for a fine Walpole-dominated set including the front door complete with saluting porter.

Irving Wardle

## Royal Opera House Covent Garden

Eugene Onegin  
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Cast includes:  
Gabriela Benackova  
Nicolai Gedda  
Sergej Kopcak  
Benjamin Luxon

Conductor:  
Yuri Simonov  
Price: £5.50-£22.50  
17, 18, 20, 22 May (7.30pm)

"surely the most human of all... operas"  
*Financial Times*  
"Proms performance sponsored by"  
@ Midland Bank

Pelléas et Mélisande  
Claude Debussy \*

Cast includes:  
Bernadette Greevy  
Anne Howells  
Thomas Allen  
Gabriel Bacquier  
Gwynne Howell

Conductor:  
Silvio Varviso  
27, 31 May;  
3, 9, 12, 14 June (7.00pm)

"A mysterious and flawless masterpiece"  
*The Sunday Times*

La clemenza di Tito  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart \*

Cast includes:  
Elizabeth Connell  
Yvonne Kenny  
Yvonne Minton  
Diana Montague

Conductor:  
John Tomlinson  
Gösta Winbergh  
Jeffrey Tate

"The Tito we have been waiting for... gripping from first to last"  
Andrew Porter  
8, 10, 13, 15, 23, 28 June;  
1 July (7.30pm)

Der Freischütz  
Carl Maria von Weber \*

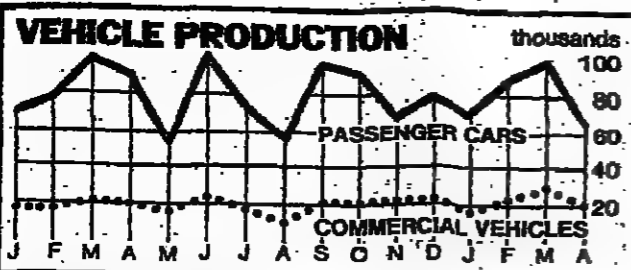
Cast includes:  
Helena Döse  
Yvonne Kenny  
Gwynne Howell  
Phillip Joll  
Roderick Kennedy  
Alberto Remedios

Conductor:  
Forbes Robinson  
Jonathan Summers  
Siegfried Vogel  
Colin Davis

"Marvellous music... outstanding under Colin Davis, idiomatic and heartfelt"  
*Daily Telegraph*  
21, 24, 29 June;  
2, 7, 10 July (7.30pm)

\*Opera prices £4.50-£20, unless indicated otherwise.

[illegible]



Car production in the United Kingdom last month tumbled to 65,000 from 98,000 in March and reflects manufacturers' growing pessimism about the state of the market. The industry is expecting sales this year to total 1.48 million rather than the earlier estimate of 1.52 million. Output of commercial vehicles, however, remains strong and in the first four months of the year was 321,000 compared with 336,000 in the same period of 1981.

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 576.9, up 1.5  
FT 100s 68.28, up 0.61  
FT Allshare 332.54, up 4.02  
Bargains 16.210

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones  
Index: 7,517.53, up 60.47  
Hongkong: Hang Seng In-  
dex: 1,351.08, up 34.89

## INTEREST RATES

Base rates 13%  
3 month interbank 13 1/4-13 1/2  
Euro-currency rates  
3 month dollar 14 1/4-14 1/2  
3 month DM 8 1/4-8 1/2  
3 month Fr 22-21 1/2

## CURRENCIES

● The pound gained on hopes of a diplomatic settlement in the Falklands while the dollar lost ground as expectations of lower interest rates strengthened. The cut in German interest rates had already been discounted and had little impact.

STERLING  
\$1.8205, up 145 points  
Index 90.1 up 0.5  
DM 4.2050  
Fr 10.9800  
Yen 423.50  
DOLLAR 112.2, down 0.4  
DM 2.3075, down 105 pts  
GOLD \$336.25, down 25 cents

## 45 pc rise in house starts

Housing starts during the first quarter of the year surged by 45 per cent over the previous three months and were up by a third over the same period last year, according to statistics published by the Department of the Environment. Provisional figures show that starts were made on 53,400 (seasonally adjusted) houses and flats in the United Kingdom against 40,100 a year ago.

## EEC floats Samurai bond

The EEC, the World Bank and Sweden came to the market for sizable borrowing yesterday. The EEC is floating its first Samurai bond, raising £20,000m (\$85m) over 10 years to help parts of southern Italy hit by the earthquake in November 1980. The World Bank, which is planning to borrow \$27,000m over three years, is raising £25,000m from Japanese banks. Sweden is borrowing \$5,000m over years in two tranches based on American interest rates.

## Profits slump in US

Corporate profits in the United States fell by 17 per cent in the first quarter of 1982 compared with the corresponding three months last year — one of the worst declines on record according to a survey of 579 large companies by the *Wall Street Journal*. Particularly hard hit were the car and steel industry and the oil companies.

## Cheers for brewers

March beer production was up 5.8 per cent over the same month last year, though output in the first quarter of this year was 7.4 per cent down on the same period last year. The Brewers Society has found in these figures a glimmer of encouragement for the trade because reports from individual brewers also indicate a slowdown in the rate of decline in actual sales.

## Israel debt rises

Israel had an external debt of \$13,400m (£9,900m) at the end of last year, up from \$16,700m a year earlier. The country's trade deficit in 1981 was \$4,500m, an increase of 13 per cent "mainly because of arms purchases". Imports, including arms, totalled \$15,300m and exports \$10,800m. The true deficit was unchanged at \$2,200m.

## Deals charge

Mr John A C Dickinson has been charged with dealing in Harris & Sheldon Group securities, contrary to Sections 68 and 72 of the Companies Act 1980. He is also charged with failing to disclose such dealing when a director of an associate company contrary to Section 27 of the Companies Act 1967.

● **IDLE** merchant ship tonnage, 690 ships totalling 41,400 deadweight tons, has trebled in the past year and is at its highest point since September 1978, according to the General Council of British Shipping. The figures reflected the continuing world recession.

● **TALLEN** Engineering, of Newton Aycliffe, Durham, which has doubled its annual turnover by winning a £5m component contract for Ford, is to modernize its factory by buying 10 robots and employing a further 100 people.

● **DU PONT** is to double its world wide capacity for polyester elastomer by building a £33m plant in Luxembourg to manufacture Hytrel for tubing, wire and cable insulation, heating and electrical appliances.

● **JAPAN'S** export letters of credit fell 6.8 per cent in April from a year before to \$8,030m (£4,511m), continuing a downturn that began in January, the Finance Ministry has announced. The pace of decline was a little faster than 4.2 per cent registered in March.

## TODAY

Company results: Interim: Gomme Holdings, J Hepworth, Pochin's City of London Trust (Third interim), Tricentral (First quarter), Welco.

Finals: Arrow Chemical, Norman Hay, Northern Goldsmiths, Scottish Ontario Investments, Yorklyde.

## PRICE CHANGES

Lloyds Bank 406, up 5  
GEC 872, up 15  
Shell 414, up 6  
P & O "Dix" 152, up 8  
Aurora Hides 21, up 3  
Standard Chart 675, up 38

Euro Ferries 79, up 4  
Trident TV "A" 82 1/2, up 4 1/2  
UDS Grp 55, down 18  
Am Agcy Music 98, down 12  
Bambas Stores 36, down 4  
BL Lid 17, down 1

Eddy financial markets reached a low point yesterday as new diplomatic moves to end the Falkland crisis and to signs that the wrangle over American budget deficits between the White House and Congress may be moving towards resolution.

The pound ended below its best in Europe after early optimism over the Falklands subsided, but snatched up gains against all leading currencies including a weaker dollar. Shares, after rising sharply in morning trading, finished only slightly better on balance.

But hopes that a budget compromise in the United States will pave the way for lower American interest rates boosted Government stocks, which closed nearly £1 higher.

Reaction in the United States was also positive. At noon the Dow Jones industrial average was 7.14 higher at 361.59 in heavy morning trading in which a huge 32.7



Eric Hartwell proposed for board

year but it is understood he will not leave before the Savoy group's future is settled.

Trusthouse Forte, which owns 66 per cent of Savoy after an unsuccessful takeover bid last summer, has put two resolutions down for the Savoy annual shareholders meeting on May 28. It wants the board expanded from 11 to 12 and use Mr Hartwell elected as the extra member.

Trusthouse argues that with its substantial share stake it should have at least one representative on the board.

Mr Giles Shepard, Savoy managing director, said last night: "Would you want a piranha in the bath with you?"

Trusthouse lost its takeover bid after a bitter and acrimonious battle which involved an exchange of personal insults between Sir Hugh and Lord Forte.

Trusthouse has always said it would return to finish the job when the takeover rules allowed. It can bid again after June 19.

Mr Shepard added yesterday: "If you had a predator who was keen to take you over, would you ask them to have a seat on the board? We will certainly be asking shareholders to vote against these resolutions."

Even though Trusthouse has a majority of the profits bearing equity, the complex two-tier voting structure of the Savoy shares means its board and supporters still command more than 50 per cent of the total votes. The two resolutions proposed by Trusthouse need a simple majority.

## Still no firm decision on Concorde's future

By Edward Townsend  
Industrial Correspondent

British and French ministers have again delayed making a decision on the future of Concorde. In Paris yesterday it was agreed only to report back to Government and arrange further talks in July.

Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, and Mr Charles Fiterman, French Minister of Transport, met to discuss the outcome of joint studies by officials of the options facing the supersonic airliner.

In a communique, they "noted with satisfaction the progressive reduction in Concorde expenditures in both countries, which would be continued". They also took note of reports dealing with cost-sharing, an issue which has angered the Commons Select Committee on Industry and Trade because of the apparent imbalance.

Whitehall is using new

## Pound and shares lose early gains

## Falklands and US deficit fears hamper markets

By Frances Williams and Sally White

million shares changed hands. Bond prices too moved ahead.

In London the pound closed 1.45 cents higher at \$1.8205 while its trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies rose 0.5 to 90.1 of its average 1975 level.

The dollar ended London trading down just over 1 pence at DM 2.3075, despite a widening of the interest rate gap between the two currencies.

Moves to resolve the United States budget conflict coincide with a call by top international bankers and economists for America to pay more attention to the international consequences of its economic policies.

A statement published today by the prestigious Group of 30 headed by Mr Johannes Witteveen, the former director general of the International Monetary Fund, urges the United States to achieve a better mix of monetary and fiscal poli-

cies and to abandon its strict policy of not intervening on the foreign exchange markets.

M. Witteveen said yesterday that action was needed urgently to bring down high American interest rates and the dollar.

These were exacerbating the debt problems of developing countries, inflicting severe damage on the United States economy and depressing economic growth in the rest of the world.

Stock market trading opened on a note of euphoria on hopes of an early Falklands peace settlement and of lower international interest rates.

But it soon became apparent that it was marking up by the jobbers, who were said to be short of stock still, that raised prices.

The opening level of the FT 30 index was 12.9 higher, while it had drifted down on lack of buying to finish up only 1.5, at 576.9, by the

close of trading. Gilt, however, remained a cheerful section of the market, because brokers regarded the United States budget compromise as likely to lead to lower interest rates there, and consequently in all international markets. Long and medium dated stocks closed up 1 1/4 points, and short dated stocks were up by 1/4 of a point.

The West German Bundesbank has decided to cut its key lending rate, the Lombard rate, to 9 per cent from 9.5 per cent and announced that it was dismantling the emergency procedure that had empowered its directors to change the rate daily (Peter Norman writes).

Herr Karl-Otto Pohl, the Bundesbank president, said that it had decided to terminate the special Lombard facility introduced in February 1981 and replace it with its traditional Lombard lending instrument.

Leader, page 11

## Dismal first quarter for BP

By Jonathan Davis  
Energy Correspondent

British Petroleum, Britain's largest industrial company, confirmed today that its first quarter trading this year was a "very disappointing" first three months trading this year.

Mr Peter Walters, chairman, coupled this with a warning that falling oil prices could paradoxically damage world economic recovery.

At BP's annual meeting, the first since he took over as chairman from Sir David Steel six months ago, Mr Walters said indications over the last few weeks were that oil prices had now stabilized after their recent falls. "We all should certainly hope so for lower prices now would be very destructive to world recovery if they were followed by significant price increases just as the economy were picking up," he said.

Stock brokers are predicting that net income could fall to as little as £125m against £395m in the first quarter last year.

The "temporary" fall in crude oil prices had led to a slackening internationally of the effort to find and develop new sources of energy.

"This is a dangerous thing. Only the development, well in advance, of new sources of oil and coal, as well as the search for new energy, can ensure that we have the energy we need and that we avoid the violent fluctuations



Walters: Warning on prices

in the price of energy which have been so harmful in the last 10 years."

The firming of oil prices has come too late to prevent what will inevitably be poor profit figures from BP in the first quarter.

The recovery that had begun in the oil marketing and refining business at the end of last year was not sustained, Mr Walters said. The Iran-Iraq war, world recession, high interest rates

and disarray in currency markets had all had a direct impact on performance, but Mr Walters was still confident about the group's long-term prospects.

The National Coal Board is still hoping to press ahead with a long-term plan to develop a £55m coal liquefaction plant, despite BP's decision to drop out of the project because of the deteriorating economics of synthetic fuel developments.

## BRITISH SUGAR UP 72pc

By Michael Frost

Mr John Padovan, chief executive of County Bank, resigned last night as S & W Berisford's representative on the British Sugar board, as the latter revealed that first-half pre-tax profits had risen by 72 per cent to £31m.

British Sugar also said that its interim dividend had been doubled to 21.4p gross. It was the board's forecast of £60m full year pre-tax profits and a full year dividend of not less than 50p gross that prompted the resignation.

Mr John Beckett, chief executive of British Sugar, said it was understood that Mr Padovan would not participate in discussions concerning S & W Berisford, which holds 38 per cent of British Sugar after a takeover battle last year.

British Sugar believe a profit forecast is pertinent to the possibility of another bid. Mr Padovan said: "I cannot regard a forecast of the profits of British Sugar, made at a time when no offer from S & W Berisford exists or could be made for some months, as a matter directly relating to S & W Berisford in which I should not participate."

## The unique role of life assurance becomes especially valuable

**CoverChoice** is our new term assurance contract which offers the option at regular intervals to renew, increase or convert the life assurance protection.

Our **Selective Pension Plan** is suitable for the individual employee and for small groups of employees, and has extended our range of pension plans.

**Increased services**  
At the beginning of 1982 we introduced our new **Managed Funds** service. The early response suggests that this unitised investment management service, to which administrative services can be added when required, is proving attractive to new as well as to existing clients.

Our **Pension Fund Management** service has established an outstanding investment performance record and there are now 24 funds under management totalling some £130 millions.

"The Society is firmly committed to the greatest possible freedom in the life assurance industry, but only within the guidelines agreed in the public interest by the Life Offices' Association and Associated Scottish Life Offices."

A copy of the 1981 Report and Accounts is available on request.

**Clerical Medical**  
& General Life Assurance Society

Principal Office: 15 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LQ.  
Telephone: 01-930 5474.  
Bristol Head Office: Narrow Place, Bristol BS2 0JH.  
Telephone: Bristol (0272) 290566.  
Incorporated in England by Act of Parliament with limited liability No. Z193.

**Increased ordinary life premium income**  
Our strength in the highly competitive life assurance market undoubtedly contributed towards a 32% increase in new ordinary life annual premium income. Our long term assurance fund has substantially increased over the year to a new record of £734 millions.

**Increased Intermediate Bonus**  
On 1st January 1982 we improved the effective rate of intermediate bonus paid on claims by introducing annual instead of triennial compounding. The last declaration of bonus on a triennial basis is due as at the end of 1983. Thereafter we shall declare bonuses annually.

**Increased range of products**  
During 1981 we introduced these new policies and pension plans:

**Child's Majority Plan** is our improved child's deferred assurance policy, which helps provide for the future needs of a child.

## Shares drift after early optimism over Falklands

The recent good results helped P & O to 152p, up 8p. But comment and profit-taking on Sainsbury brought the shares back to 635p after Wednesday's good figures, down 15p.

*De La Rue is meeting increasing international competition on security printing, causing analysts to doubt their pretax forecasts of £28m, down 17 per cent. A line of half a million failed to find buyers. The shares fell 10p to 545p.*

102p, up 4p. Insurance shares closed better. General Accident recovered from yesterday's fall after the decline into a loss, up 6p at 294p. Royal was 336p, up 5p, and Commercial Union rose 5p to 131p, ahead of figures next week.

• **Sally White**

been encouraging and sales

Sales in the period were

● GEC companies have signed contracts worth more than £40m to supply equipment for the Recife Metropolitan Suburban Railway in

ment scheme.

Sales in the period were

Incidents in this table are shown net of law on person per share. Elsewhere in BUSINESS NEWS, incidents are shown on a gross basis.

Table 1. (continued)

---

**BP has just produced the billionth barrel of oil from the Forties field.**

**BP has developed lubricants for space craft.**

**Last year, a second major oil field in Alaska came on stream.**

**In 1981 BP had to embark on a programme to reduce refinery capacity in Europe by 23%.**

And, as a result of these measures, BP is getting into shape for the realities of

"Nothing that has happened in this last difficult year alters my conviction that our strategy over recent years of broadening the Group's interests and operating base will prove, in times ahead, to have been the right one."

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

**BP Britain at its best.**

Advances exceeded declines three years.

• Ex div. n Auked. c Ex distribution. h Bid: k Market closed. a New issue. p Stock split. : : 1



7 day deposit on sum  
under \$10,000 10%  
\$10,000 up to \$50,000 15%  
\$50,000 and over 20%

## The Over-the-Counter Market

\_\_\_\_\_

**INTERNATIONAL**

**CHINA**  
Move to raise output

**WEST GERMANY**

**CANADA**

**NGERIA**

**FRANCE**

**VIETNAM**

**Profit before tax**  
**Profit after tax**  
**Profit attributable to shareholders**  
**Earnings**  
**Dividend**

**Notes**

**Extract from**

The unaudited profit of £43.3 million reported. A current cost £27.2 million

During the year increased 14.5%, the trend average every sign has shown is increasing reflecting the sector cost of almost a

**The F**

## INTERNATIONAL

CHINA  
Move to  
raise  
output

China plans to raise overall industrial output by 4 per cent in 1982, same as it did last year. The country will also increase heavy industrial output by one per cent of value, after a 4.5 per cent fall last year. Heavy industrial production is set to increase by 7 per cent against a 10.4 per cent rise last year.

## WEST GERMANY

A gap of at least DM5,000m (£1,200m) in federal finances will have to be plugged within the planned 1982 supplementary budget, Herr Otto Lamsdorff, the economics minister, said yesterday.

West German crude steel production fell by 12.6 per cent to 3.4 million tonnes in April but was up from 3.26 million tonnes in April 1981.

## CANADA

Canada's trade surplus widened to a seasonally adjusted C\$1,180m (£543m) in February. It was the 23rd consecutive month that Canada's exports exceeded its imports.

## NIGERIA

Nigeria has withdrawn its objection to foreign investment in the African Development Bank, enabling 25 more developed nations to become shareholders in the 50-nation corporation.

## FRANCE

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development is predicting 12 per cent inflation and a 2.5 per cent rise in gross domestic product for France in 1982.

## VIETNAM

Vietnam has signed an agreement with the Soviet Union on oil and gas insurance as a possible prelude to offshore drilling in Vietnam waters by the Soviet Union.

The Government is attempting to formulate an effective industrial strategy to stem the rising tide of electronic imports which currently produce a trade deficit of more than £300m.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Industry, has said that such deficits are totally unacceptable and has committed his department to spend more on the high technology industries instead of supporting what he calls the "casualties of the past".

The Electronic Engineering Association annual dinner two days ago he was emphatic that positive action was required. He said: "We must channel more resources, more help to the industries upon which the future of this country depends".

The remarks by Mr Jenkin were precipitated largely by the publication last week of a study by the Electronics Economic Development Committee of the National Economic Development Office.

The report, "Policy for the UK Electronics Industry", offered the Government a framework on which it could build its strategy.

The committee concluded that the United Kingdom electronics industry is "in relative decline". That decline has been due to the inability of the British industry to keep pace with the growth of the market. The output of the industry rose 7 per cent each year from 1975 to 1980, compared with a growth in the United Kingdom market of 8 per cent a year and the world market of about 10 per cent. The consequence was a trade deficit of over £300m in 1980, although five years earlier it had been in surplus by £100m.

Despite the growth of the United Kingdom electronics industry in the latter part of the seventies which produced over £7,700m worth of equipment in 1980, it was not sufficient to prevent substantial import penetration. Two of the fastest growing sectors in electronics are information technology (largely computers, telecommunications and related equipment) and consumer electronics. By 1980 these two sectors alone, again through explosive demand created by the advances made in the technology, had a combined trade deficit of more than £500m. The success of other sectors in the industry and those provided by computer services produced a trade surplus of £200m.

What strategy should be adopted to reverse this trend is the question occupying a number of minds at the Department of Industry. The NEDDY report is in no doubt that "a combination of current trends would imply a further decline in the United Kingdom share of the world market and an equivalent loss of trade, profit and job opportunities".

The council wants British companies to develop their international competitiveness and has called on government to use its public procurement capability to direct industry. The government is still in the process of preparing its response to the NEDDY report, but Mr Jenkin is not prepared to accept that it should be his department's responsibility to bail out uncompetitive companies.

He believes that the ultimate commercial judgment of the market cannot and should not be substituted by "the judgement of ministers and civil servants".

In his speech to the delegates of the Electronic Engineering Association he argued that companies must be responsible for their own fate. He said: "If firms do not have prime responsibility for their own research and development and their own market strategy, surely we will simply perpetuate that costly overdependence of the industry on government patronage which many see as one of the sources of our problems".

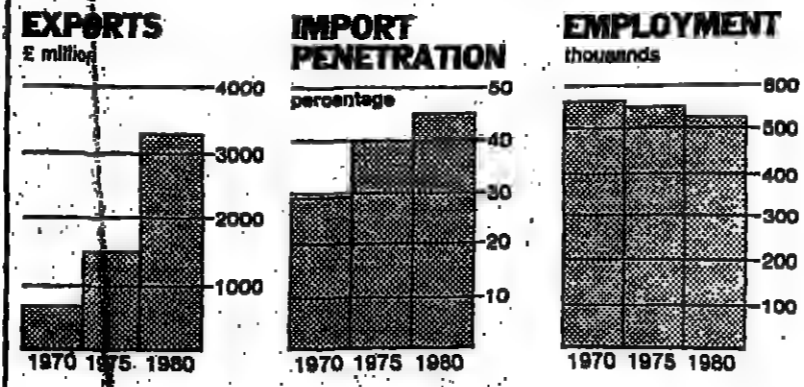
What are the principal areas in which the British electronic companies should be channelling their energies? According to Mr Jenkin: "It is the industry that must be prepared to concentrate its energies

Electronics and  
the challenges  
facing Whitehall

● In 1975 Britain exported £100m worth more electronic goods than it imported. Five years later imports exceeded exports by more than £300m. Recently a specialist committee at the National Economic Development Office suggested a framework for government policy towards the industry and this week Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, revealed the Government's concern over import penetration. Bill Johnstone points to the challenges.

UK  
industry:  
the  
data

Source: Business Monitor and MEDO



where the prospects are brightest. That may well mean each firm concentrating on that which it does best and leaving the rest to its competitors.

However, any strategy designed to arrest their falling level of imports must encourage the industry to develop new markets, new products and new techniques. Skills that have been refined over years of manufacture are important but it could be argued that they are not enough.

Some of the products and the technologies existing in numerous sectors of the electronics industry did not exist five years ago.

New markets and new techniques are increasingly in evidence in the consumer electronics market which has a turnover of £500m in Britain

and employs about 30,000 of the 525,000 people who work in the industry.

The colour television market is one of the most lucrative in the consumer sector. About two million sets are sold each year in Britain — worth more than £350m. But this industry is under threat. The licences held by the creators of the European television system (PAL) which restricted the importation of large screen sets by foreign manufacturers expire next year. Another report which has just been prepared for the National Economic Development Council by the Electronic Consumer Goods working party doubts whether Britain will then be able to compete.

But one of the most serious



Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry (left) and Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, preparing the Government's strategy.

deficiencies of the British consumer electronics market lies in the manufacture of video products in the country. Last year over 900,000 videos were rented or sold in Britain and this year that figure is expected to rise to 1.4m.

None is manufactured in Britain on any significant scale at the moment although Thorn-EMI in partnership with the Japanese Victor Company (JVC) intends to build video cassette recorders in Newhaven in Surrey in the near future. The market is shared by the manufacturers of the JVC design (about 65 per cent), Sony (22 per cent) and Philips.

Philips intends to launch its videodisc player on May 26 in London. These players will be made at the company's plant in Hasselt in Belgium. The discs themselves are currently being manufactured at the Mullard factory in Lancashire.

But the large scale importation of video and related products is a subject that has seriously concerned the Department of Industry and many industrialists in the consumer sector. The NEDDY working party expresses its concern, but is optimistic. It says: "The UK is not necessarily out of video for good, but it does mean that the need to make sure of the next mass market product after that becomes particularly pressing". It then stresses that the British industry must transform its colour television set into a more sophisticated product which could include a number of features as standard — remote control, teletext, multi-channel selection, frequency converters for cable television and stereo sound.

The success of the information technology industries, which have a current trade deficit of £230m, is crucial. By 1990 if nothing was done, the deficit could be as high as £1 bn. These industries are big business. By 1985 the world market will be worth in excess of £120 bn of which about 5 per cent will be in Britain.

The Government has already recognized the importance of the industries by appointing a minister, Mr Kenneth Baker, to be in charge of them and by designating this year "Information Technology Year". But what is the best strategy to be adopted by the Government to encourage growth in the electronics industry? The Government's decision on whether to allow cable television in Britain on a large scale, as recommended by the Information Technology Advisory Panel of the Cabinet Office, would provide a unique opportunity.

Government expenditure in electronics already accounts for 46 per cent of all government funding to industry.

It is in a unique position to influence the decisions made by companies. The Government is also one of the principal users of high technology products — computers, telecommunications, terminals, and so on. As a major purchaser has the power to influence research.

More than £650m is spent each year within the electronics industry on research and development. At least half of that is provided by government.

Stronger links between industry and government are favoured by NEDDY. It concludes that foreign governments have successfully provided mechanisms which have not been designed to interfere with the technical direction of companies, but encourage them in the development of internationally competitive products.

Any new government strategy for the electronics industry would need to bare this in mind. Those who cannot survive internationally find it increasingly difficult to compete at home faced with technically advanced imports.

This is the challenge that faces a government, traditionally not happy with having intimate relationships with the private sector.

## C. Gordon Tether

US interest rates:  
the coming fall

The Reagan Administration continues to insist that the fall in United States interest rates the world is so anxious to see must wait on a satisfactory outcome to the battle with Congress over the budget deficit. The real question is whether the slowing down in the pace of inflation pushing real interest rates to astronomical levels and the strength of the dollar pressing ever harder on American trade, it can afford to allow anything to stand in its way.

During much of the past year, it has been more than a little difficult to make sense of the pronouncements from Washington on the outlook for United States interest rates. A prediction one day from one prominent member of the administration that a fall was in the offing, was apt to be the subject of a flat denial by another equally prominent member the next. But during the past month or two a consensus has begun to emerge. President Reagan gave simplistic expression to it a week or two back. He said: "High interest rates have brought this economy to its knees. To get it going again, we have to let business know that we are cutting deficits. That will be the signal business wants."

One is that the pressures imposed on America's international trade by the absurdly high value American interest rates have put on the dollar are mounting and appear destined to go on doing so. The adverse balance of trade is already running beyond last year's near-record level. More countries are looking to devaluation for relief from their economic problems — there have already been two general realignments of European Monetary System currencies this year. So the deterioration in the United States exports-imports relationships arising from the over-valuation of the dollar must tend to get worse.

Another is that the American interest rates have put on the dollar are mounting and appear destined to go on doing so. The adverse balance of trade is already running beyond last year's near-record level. More countries are looking to devaluation for relief from their economic problems — there have already been two general realignments of European Monetary System currencies this year. So the deterioration in the United States exports-imports relationships arising from the over-valuation of the dollar must tend to get worse.

Between the last quarter of this year and the first quarter of 1982, the American inflation rate was running no dizzier heights for much longer. One reason for this is 4 per cent. This means that the clamour from the real rate of interest for outside world for the adoption of a more neighbourly rate of interest is now in the vicinity of 13 per cent — monetary policy by the United States is growing as the second half of last year more insistent.

Other countries do not accept the Reagan team's order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

Real interest rates of this order would be difficult to theme that he has not justly at the height of an effective control over this rampant boom. No case of economic policy whatsoever can be made out And as the Canadian prime minister has said, he will be recession that has pushed up reminding Mr Reagan at the United States unemployment summit, that action is overdue on the half-promise that

The Royal Bank  
of Scotland  
Group plc

## Interim Results

	6 months ended	6 months ended	12 months ended
	31.3.82	31.3.81	30.9.81
Profit before taxation	£43.1m	£43.3m	£107.9m
Profit after taxation (note 1)	£39.5m	£25.3m	£67.0m
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders (note 2)	£39.5m	£25.8m	£78.3m
Earnings per 25p ordinary share	25.3p	11.2p	41.9p
Dividend per 25p ordinary share	2.8p	2.4p	5.4p

Notes  
1. As a result of accelerated capital allowances in respect of equipment used in the business and assets leased to customers the charge for taxation has been reduced by £10.6m in the 6 months ended 31 March 1982, £13.7m in the 6 months ended 31 March 1981 and £23.5m in the 12 months ended 30 September 1981. The charge for the current period has also been reduced by a credit of £5.5m in respect of additional capital allowances relieved against profits of the prior year.

2. After making an exceptional credit item of £17.5m of a part release of provision for deferred taxation, no longer considered to be required by an associated company.

An exceptional credit item of £22.5m was included in the 12 months ended 30 September 1981 in respect of deferred taxation no longer considered to be required by the Group.

Extract from Interim Statement by the Chairman, Sir Michael Herries

The unaudited profit before taxation, on an historical cost basis, amounted to £43.1 million for the six months ended 31 March 1982. This compares with a profit of £43.3 million for the corresponding period in the previous year which has been restated for the change in accounting for leasing as explained in the 1981 annual report. After adjusting for the effect of inflation the profit before taxation on a current cost basis was £25.1 million and, for the corresponding period last year, £27.2 million.

During the six months ended 31 March 1982 the Group has benefited from increased volumes and, whilst average base rate increased slightly from 14.4% to 14.5%, this has been more than offset by the narrowing of interest margins and the trend away from current accounts to interest bearing deposits. This trend shows every sign of continuing within the current half year. Commission and fee income has shown an encouraging increase but the provision for bad and doubtful debts has increased by £5.3 million over the corresponding period last year thus reflecting the continuing difficult trading conditions in the economy generally. Despite tight control operating costs have continued to rise particularly public sector costs. The share of profits from associated companies has increased by almost a third.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc Williams & Glyn's Bank plc

WATERFORD  
GLASS

Profits up by 29% reports Chairman Patrick W. McGrath

I am particularly pleased to report a return to profit growth. The Group pre-tax profit for the year amounted to over IR£10 million as compared to some IR£3 million in 1980. There was a general improvement in pre-tax profits in all sectors of the Group notably in the retail division. This achievement against a background of continuing recession and high inflation is encouraging but continued effort is necessary to maintain the pressure to overcome the current recessionary trends. Group properties have been revealed resulting in a surplus of IR£20 million.

For the purpose of clearer identification and in order to avoid confusion between the holding company and the manufacturing units, it is proposed to change the name of the company to Waterford Glass Group Limited.

## Waterford Crystal

The lightingware factory came into full production during 1981 and we

have been successful in introducing a large range of new products particularly to the US market. In all, 80% of Waterford crystal is exported. Overall, the crystal division, both manufacturing and distribution, achieved its budgeted results. Although high interest rates prevailed for much of 1981, the US subsidiary turned in an improved performance over the previous year. The UK market remains depressed but it is hoped that the ending of the recession will be more evident in 1982.

## Aynsley China

In spite of the sluggish business climate in the UK, Aynsley has continued to produce at full capacity, embarking on aggressive marketing and production diversification measures.

## Switzer Group

Profits for 1980 were virtually eliminated following a policy of stock rationalisation. These measures were

more than justified in 1981 with the Group's recovery to pre-1980 levels.

## The Smith Group

During 1981, it more than held its place in the market with 9% of new car registrations and is anticipating an improved share during 1982.

## Outlook

It is not possible to predict the outcome for the coming year with any degree of accuracy. The degree of success will depend on the level of recession in the various activities. If we are to be successful in maintaining adequate margins we must record further improvements in sales and profits. Our anticipation must be tempered with caution pending further improvement in the trading climates at home and abroad.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from:  
The Secretary,  
Waterford Glass Limited,  
Kilbarney, Waterford,  
Ireland.

## Financial Highlights

	1981 IR£	1980 IR£	%
TURNOVER	190,248,000	154,091,000	+23.5
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	10,359,000	8,051,000	+28.7
EARNINGS PER SHARE	4.10p	2.99p	+37.1
ORDINARY DIVIDEND PER SHARE (NET)	1.511p	1.511p	
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	80,443,000	53,953,000	+49.1









GOLF  
s stays firmly  
move to  
French Open

مكنا من الأصل

# RUGBY UNION Twickenham and RFU touch down in the marketing era

By David Hands

Twickenham, the headquarters of the Rugby Football Union and the spiritual home of rugby, will be the focal point of a new marketing programme designed to raise a minimum of £5m over the next five years. This contrasts with the sum of £200,000 a season raised by advertising at the ground.

The look of the ground, recently altered by the building of the new south stand, will also be changed by the introduction of two closed circuit screens at the north-east and south-west corners. These will be used as entertainment for spectators on big-match days and for relaying information during games. They also offer the potential of live coverage of other important sporting occasions.

The RFU, whose existing sponsorship arrangements, such as that with John Player and Sons, will be completely honoured, have appointed the West Nally Group as their marketing consultants. The group's managing director, Patrick Nally, said his company were offering a totally integrated marketing programme available to a limited number of leading companies. The upper limit envisaged is 10 companies who, in return for their contribution, would receive promotional and merchandising opportunities throughout the English game, plus the use of

new facilities at Twickenham. These include 33 hospitality boxes in the south stand which should be available in time for the University match in December this year and a 450-seat banqueting suite beneath the stand.

The agreement also opens the possibility of new RFU contracts with manufacturers, which could lead to players or clubs buying equipment through the union. Any company already supporting the RFU through an existing sponsorship agreement is likely to receive first option on the opportunities presented by the new programme.

Alan Grimdell, the RFU treasurer, said at a press conference in London yesterday: "Our confidence in the new marketing plan enables us to press on with improvements at Twickenham and to be thinking actively, over the next two years, about a development similar to

the south stand at the other end of the ground."

Income from the new programme would be ploughed back into the game. Mr Grimdell said: "We can move forward with the appointment of further divisional coaches, so essential to the development of English rugby. We can give greater support to our schools, youth and club organisations and we will have more money available to loan to our clubs."

Coincidentally, the details of the RFU's new marketing project came just over a month after an announcement by another London sports marketing company of details of a projected World Cup for rugby. Such a competition does not feature high on the RFU's forward planning list at the moment but it would be well placed to introduce their own scheme if their partnership with West Nally develops.

## New schools coaches named

Mike Williams, who has taken boys from Sevenoaks School on rugby tours all over the world, will be the assistant manager and coach to the England 19 group party to tour Zimbabwe this summer. A party managed by David Francis from Mill Hill School, David Hands writes.

Williams will also be the new coach to the England 16 group schools next season, in suc-

# VIEWPOINT A time for deeds not words

By Nicholas Keith  
Sports Editor

When Neil Macfarlane became Sports Minister last September, he spoke forcefully and fluently about tackling football hooliganism. Seven months later he is still talking this week he has been listening to the views of the London league managers.

However, the time has come for deeds not words. The recent eruptions of violence have reopened the wounds which have been festering for years. Of course, Mr Macfarlane cannot be expected to produce answers to an intractable question, but he should be in a position to take an initiative.

If anyone doubts the seriousness of the situation, three outbreaks of violence in recent weeks should disabuse them. The first was at Anderlecht in the League Cup semi-final as a result of which Aston Villa were fined £14,500 and will have to play their next home European tie behind closed doors which will cost them a further £50,000. Last weekend ugly scenes at Highbury culminated in a murder after the Arsenal-West Ham match. This week at Swindon the referee was laid out by a missile and smoke bombs were thrown onto the pitch.

In all these cases the finger has been pointed at the visiting team. In no sense can these people be classed as supporters of the visiting team. If you had no job, no prospects and lived on the 9th floor of a crumbling tower block, you might be a football hooligan. That is a cause and not an excuse and the hooligans who bring football into disrepute are a tiny minority.

So it is up to society to deal with offenders as well as trying to avert the underlying causes. The police must be at the forefront of government ministers rather than football club managers or directors have the power and duty to instruct the police and the magistrates via the Home Office which controls them. This is where Mr Macfarlane comes in, as a member of the Government and a Minister of the Department of the Environment.

Mr Macfarlane should make it his business to concentrate on the following points:

1. An identity card for football fans, without which it should be impossible to enter a British ground or travel abroad.
2. Random breath checks outside football grounds, as alcohol is almost always the root of all evil.
3. Firm penalties in the courts (which are supposed to be available but do not seem to achieve the required deterrent effect).
4. A life ban and removal of identity cards for convicted offenders.

# Motoring by Peter Waymark Old fashioned, old fashioned price



Cheap but dated — the Hyundai pony hatchback

The question for anyone contemplating the South Korean Hyundai Pony is whether a temptingly low price and likelihood of mechanical reliability are sufficient to compensate for an old fashioned design which, in several important areas, falls seriously short of the standard of contemporary European model cars.

Similar in size to the Ford Escort and Vauxhall Astra, the Pony was developed in the early 1970s and went into production in 1976. It was South Korea's first indigenous car, with a distinguished international parentage. The styling was by Giugiaro from Italy; the running gear came from Mitsubishi in Japan; and the enterprise was overseen by Mr George Turnbull, formerly of British Leyland and now running Talbot UK.

There is a 12-model range for the British market, with a choice of three-door hatchback and four-door saloon bodyshells; 1200cc and 1400cc engines; manual and automatic transmissions; and several trim levels. Prices start at only £3,177, or almost £1,000 below either the Escort or Astra, and this is undoubtedly the car's main selling point.

My test model was the 1400 TFS hatchback. The power unit is the 1439cc overhead camshaft engine, developing 67 bhp, no longer used by Mitsubishi but familiar from some Colt models sold in Britain. The four-speed gearbox, like many Japanese boxes a delight to use, is also from Mitsubishi, as is the final drive unit. These items are tried and tested and should not give trouble; and the bodysheet carries a six-year anti-rust warranty.

The engine, which drives the rear wheels (in itself an indication of how long ago the car was conceived) is a spirited performer and few modern units do the job better. The car feels lively and with adequate power for overtaking and a high enough top speed to permit unforced motorway cruising. Driven gently, the engine is smooth and quiet but even mild acceleration incurs harshness. Worse than this is the amount of vibration which will not be to the liking of sensitive stomachs.

One symptom of an old design is poor fuel consumption. Ten years ago I might have been happy to get 28 mpg from a car of this size but certainly not now. My touring figure of only 30 mpg was extremely disappointing. A fifth gear would help but the car is probably too heavy.

Handling and ride are other bad points. With the Pony we are back to that

maximum temperature is required. The level of equipment for a top of the line model is not generous. There is no radio, for instance, and could have done with a rear screen wiper.

The Pony is the sort of car which was being produced by the Japanese motor industry about eight years ago. Then, as now, the main appeal of such vehicles is price and the promise of trouble-free motoring. The Escort and Astra, and for that matter, the older Vauxhall Chevette, are infinitely superior and though they may be more expensive to buy, they are likely to depreciate less quickly.

**Filtering through**

The lead in petrol controversy has got to the stage when statements from one side are being refuted by the other even before they are made. This week the Associated Octel company, gave a briefing to motoring journalists on its exhaust gas filter. But notice of the meeting had obviously come to the attention of the Conservation Society which, five days before, drew up a press notice attacking the filter as an inadequate response to the problem.

Associated Octel has been busy obtaining media coverage for the filter which was actually developed in the early 1970s and would probably have been forgotten had not lead in petrol returned to public debate a few months ago.

There is a vested interest here, since Associated Octel is the sole producer of lead additives for petrol in the United Kingdom and has a substantial export business. Any move to reduce lead must obviously concern the company, which is partly why it is promoting the filter so strenuously. The development work has so far cost between £3m and £4m.

**MG revival**

In the discussion about whether the Metro is an appropriate car to carry the MG badge, it is easy to forget that some pretty ordinary vehicles have displayed the famous octagon in the past, not least the last saloon to do so, the Austin Morris 1100 range. Even a "true" MG, like the lamented MGB, was no more exciting mechanically than the Marina; though as far as we know a Marina's club has yet to be formed.

Of course, the MG Metro is 90 per cent a Metro. But having tried it I think enough has been done to justify the label. The black spoiler, which frames the rear window, is a strong visual feature as well as helping to reduce drag from 0.41 to 0.39, the lowest in the class.

Inside, a striking red, grey and black colour scheme has been used, even down to the scarlet seat belts. The front seats are the firm, high-backed "sports" variety, with plenty of side support.

As befits a performance car, the 1275cc engine has been upgraded, through camshaft and timing changes, from 60 to 72 bhp and has a higher compression ratio.

With 0 to 60 mph acceleration in under 11 seconds and a top speed of 100 mph, the MG Metro is a brisk performer and apart from an unfortunate boom around 3,000 rpm in top, the engine is reasonably refined. Curiously, since nothing has been done to the suspension — with hydragas that would have been difficult — the car has a much tauter feel than the standard Metro. The wider wheels and track probably have some influence.

Whatever the reason, this is a car of genuine sporting character and it should find a ready market. At £4,799, it is just a little cheaper than the main competitors, the S and XR2 versions of the Ford Fiesta.

# BOXING Strong party hopes to restore London pride

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

After five years London looks set to revive memories of 1972, when the capital lifted five ABA titles and 1973 when it took six. The eight London men at the ABA championships, set for George Wimpey at Wembley Arena tonight are Repton trio John McBride (light-fly), Alan Coverley (bantam), Bobby Purkes (light-heavy); two from St. Paul's, Herman Heury (feather) and Jim McDonnell (light); and Tony Adams (light-welter) from Fitzroy Lodge. Martin Patrick (light-middle) from New Enterprise and Faribairn House's super-heavy Adrian Elliott.

Between them they hope to finish up with at least five titles. The most likely ones appear to be Henry, McDonnell, Adams, Patrick and Elliott. The Northwest who have five finalists, provide the main opposition and are strongly supported by two old hands, the light-fly John Lyon (Lewes House) and the bantam Ray Gilday (St. Helens Star). They should account for McBride and Coverley.

Although the general level of boxing is not as high as in 1973 when men like Cowdell, Knight, and Lucas were champions, Adams could prove to be the find of the decade. The year-old's bout, with Clyde

McLennan, of Bell Green in the Midlands, is clearly going to be the centrepiece of the championship. In his six contests in the competition Adams has only once been taken further than one round. He demolished George Gilday, who was trying for his fifth title, in one minute. "I didn't feel a thing," Gilday said after the fight.

That is how good the blow was. Three of Adams' opponents went down in just over half a minute. In the semi-finals at Preston Adams admitted that he had "hung about a bit"; he stopped Alastair Laurie of Scotland with just 12 seconds of the first round remaining.

The other outstanding boxer, Errol Christie, will not be there because he was eliminated earlier when he failed to make the light-middle weight. It had been thought that he would go to the world championships in Munich but he passed that up. It is a pity that England did not send a team to Munich. Only Lithgow and Decker are showing the flag.

Len Mills, the ABA secretary, says he is happy to see the return of the professionals and with a new team in the making it is just as well England were not thrown in with the big boys.

# Olympians humbled

Munich, May 6 — Two Olympic light-flyweight finalists Shamil Sabirov, of the Soviet Union, and Hipolito Ramos, of Cuba, were both beaten in the preliminary round of the world amateur championship. Sabirov, the Moscow champion, was unable to cope with tall southerner, Yong Hwan Go, of North Korea and went out on a narrow split decision.

Go, one of the three-man North Korean team, jolted Sabirov with two jarring left hooks in the first round and calmly kept out of trouble for the remainder of the bout.

Ramos never recovered from the shock of taking a compulsory eight-count in the first round against Laureano Ramirez, a 22-year-old student from the Dominican Republic who has lost only four of his 58 bouts.

Ramos tired badly late in the second round and appeared barely able to lift his arms at times. He was then out by a somehow found extra reserves and managed to stage off a fusillade of right and left crosses from the desperate Ramos to earn a 3-2 decision — K.O.

World Boxing Association light-flyweight champion, Katsuo Tokoshiki, will defend his title against fellow Japanese Masaharu Inai on July 7.

### Recruitment Opportunities

#### INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS LONDON WEST END

## MANAGEMENT PERSON

This person is likely to be in their mid 20's to mid 30's. Experience in the field of architecture, engineering or the construction industry is essential together with proven abilities to manage a small administration unit with a secretarial and word processing emphasis as well as liaising with a design team.

The position is demanding, but offers outstanding prospects and matching financial rewards for the right person.

Reply to Box No. 1792 G The Times

### INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

## PROJECT MANAGER

The successful candidate is likely to be in his/her 30's to mid 40's with a background in architecture, engineering or the construction industry. He/she will be expected to work with the design team in their London Head Office initially on a major prestige project under construction in the Far East. He/she will be mobile and expected to display initiative. A flair for organising and responding to the flow of information is vital as this person will be a key link between the design team and the contracting organisation as well as aiding communication between the head London office and its Far East project offices.

The position is demanding but offers outstanding prospects and matching financial rewards for the right person.

Reply to Box No. 1791 G The Times

### MANAGING DIRECTOR

#### Insurance Brokers

Well established insurance brokerage operating in major city requires a fully experienced M.D. to develop an already profitable company. Remuneration by way of basic salary of £12,000 p.a.

plus attractive bonus on profit and other benefits. All applicants will be sent the usual confidential questionnaire. Reply to Box 1684 G THE TIMES

### Educational, Careers and Re-training

With the appointment of the present Chaplain to the post of Housemaster at the International Centre

## SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

seeks to appoint a

## CHAPLAIN

who will provide creative leadership for the Church in the School and give full attention to the pastoral needs of a large and diverse school community. He will be expected to teach and participate in school activities.

For details write or telephone, RICHARD BARKER, The Headmaster, SEVENOAKS SCHOOL, KENT, TN11 1HN (Tel: 0732-455133)

### COMPANY NOTICES

**MAXIM'S LIMITED**  
Wentworth Road, London, N16 9JL  
Notice is hereby given that the 1981 Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the above address on Friday, June 11, 1982, at 3.30 p.m. The business to be transacted at the meeting is as follows: (a) To receive and adopt the accounts and the auditors' report for the year ended 31.12.81; (b) To elect directors in place of those retiring; (c) To elect auditors in place of those retiring; (d) To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

**PROPERTY UNDER £35,000**  
**Onslow Gardens, S.W.7**  
Lovely newly decorated four bedroom flat (flat 1) in a quiet residential area. Close to transport, schools, shops, etc. Lease 67 yrs. Low asking price. £24,750. Tel: 0732-8538.

### MOTOR CARS

## MERCEDES-BENZ

### TROUBLE-FREE SERVICING

- \* Automatic reminders sent when service is due
- \* Fully computerised system ensures labour charges are kept to a minimum
- \* All work on new or used cars - fully guaranteed
- \* Extensive parts dept.

## ALAN DAY LTD

Service and Parts  
117 Watlington Road, London, W12 8PU  
01-228 4721

## OPPORTUNITIES IN ZIMBABWE

GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved degree in medicine with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe plus post registration experience.
- Appointments: (i) Medical Officer of Health (ii) Government Medical Officer (iii) Senior Registrar & Specialist qualification. For applicants with two or more years post-registration experience, and (iv) Hospital Medical Officer. For applicants with less than two years post-registration experience.

SPECIALISTS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved specialist qualification registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe, plus six or more years post qualification experience. Four of which should be in the specialty.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to specialist positions in: (i) Anaesthetics (ii) Obstetrics and Gynaecology (iii) Surgery - Plastic, Thoracic, ENT, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Neurology and General Surgery (iv) Medicine (v) Paediatrics (vi) Pathology (vii) Radiology (viii) Ophthalmology (ix) Radiology.

PHARMACISTS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved degree in Pharmacy registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe plus one or more years post registration experience.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to posts of Pharmacist in (i) and (ii) in voluntary order depending on length of experience and/or higher qualification.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved degree or diploma in Physiotherapy, Medical Gymnastics etc., registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council, with or without experience.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to posts of Physiotherapist depending on experience.

RADIOGRAPHERS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved diploma in either Radiography or Radiotherapy registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council, with or without experience.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to posts of Radiographer or Senior Radiographer, depending on experience.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

- Qualifications and Experience: Diploma or degree in Occupational Therapy registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe, with or without experience.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to posts of Occupational Therapist or Senior Occupational Therapist depending on experience.

DENTAL OFFICERS

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved dental degree or qualification registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe plus post registration experience for appointment to Senior position.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to position of: (i) Senior Government Medical Officer (ii) Dentist (iii) Dental Surgeon (iv) Dental Officer

MEDICAL ANALYSTS

- Qualifications and Experience: (i) Qualification in Medical Analysis (ii) Diploma in Medical Analysis (iii) Appointment in Medical Analysis (iv) Appointment in Medical Analysis (v) Appointment in Medical Analysis

ORTHOPAEDIC

- Qualifications and Experience: Approved degree or diploma in Orthopaedics registrable with the Medical, Dental and Allied Professions Council of Zimbabwe, with or without experience.
- Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to posts of Orthopaedic Surgeon or Senior Orthopaedic Surgeon, depending on experience.

### PHYSICISTS

#### E.E.G. AND E.C.G. TECHNICIANS

#### MAXILLA FACIAL TECHNICIAN

#### AUDIO METRICIAN

Qualifications and Experience: Approved degree or diploma in the particular discipline, with or without experience.

Appointments: Appointment will be on contract to the relevant positions.

Attractive salaries are offered for three year contracts commensurate with experience and return to be limited to the applicant's home country. Social effects, furniture and a motor car may be provided free by the applicant.

For information, write to: H.W. HIGH COMMISSION, 42/43 Strand, London WC2R 0SA

### LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE**  
VOLUNTARY (TRADE MARK)  
Notice is hereby given that the 1981 Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the above address on Friday, June 11, 1982, at 3.30 p.m. The business to be transacted at the meeting is as follows: (a) To receive and adopt the accounts and the auditors' report for the year ended 31.12.81; (b) To elect directors in place of those retiring; (c) To elect auditors in place of those retiring; (d) To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

**THE COMPANIES ACT 1948**  
Notice is hereby given that the 1981 Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the above address on Friday, June 11, 1982, at 3.30 p.m. The business to be transacted at the meeting is as follows: (a) To receive and adopt the accounts and the auditors' report for the year ended 31.12.81; (b) To elect directors in place of those retiring; (c) To elect auditors in place of those retiring; (d) To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

**COMPANY MEETING NOTICES**  
BANK LEUEN LE ISRAELI B.M. NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF SHARES OF THE COMPANY  
The 1981 Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at the above address on Friday, June 11, 1982, at 3.30 p.m. The business to be transacted at the meeting is as follows: (a) To receive and adopt the accounts and the auditors' report for the year ended 31.12.81; (b) To elect directors in place of those retiring; (c) To elect auditors in place of those retiring; (d) To transact any other business which may come before the meeting.

### COUNTRY PROPERTY

**BATTERSEA VILLAGE**  
1 bedroom flat in well maintained block. Facilities include: kitchen, bathroom, living room, etc. Lease 67 yrs. Low asking price. £24,750. Tel: 0732-8538.

**PROPERTY TO LET**  
Chapman Commercial Fully furnished 1000 sq ft modern premises. A100 p.w. Tel: 01-228 4721

**PROPERTY WANTED**  
CANADIAN requires family accommodation. NW SW or West London area. 4-5 bedrooms. Tel: 01-228 4721

**LONDON FLATS**  
CENTRAL LONDON flat 500 sq ft. Tel: 01-228 4721

**COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY**  
VW Main Dealership. Tel: 01-228 4721

**OVERSEAS PROPERTY**  
BOCA RATON, FLORIDA superb 4 bedroom villa with pool. Tel: 01-228 4721

### THE TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Ring 01-837 3311

## PERSONAL COLUMNS

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## GREEK ISLANDS FOR A SONG

LAST MINUTE SALE

2 WEEKS INCLUSIVE VILLA/TAVNERA HOLIDAYS AT LOW PRICES

ALL WEEKS DEPARTURES

SPECIALS

CORFU &amp; CRETE

APRIL 1982

MAY 1982

JUNE 1982

JULY 1982

AUGUST 1982

SEPTEMBER 1982

OCTOBER 1982

NOVEMBER 1982

DECEMBER 1982

JANUARY 1983

FEBRUARY 1983

MARCH 1983

APRIL 1983

MAY 1983

JUNE 1983

JULY 1983

AUGUST 1983

SEPTEMBER 1983

OCTOBER 1983

NOVEMBER 1983

DECEMBER 1983

JANUARY 1984

FEBRUARY 1984

MARCH 1984

APRIL 1984

MAY 1984

JUNE 1984

JULY 1984

AUGUST 1984

SEPTEMBER 1984

OCTOBER 1984

NOVEMBER 1984

DECEMBER 1984

JANUARY 1985

FEBRUARY 1985

MARCH 1985

APRIL 1985

MAY 1985

JUNE 1985

JULY 1985

AUGUST 1985

SEPTEMBER 1985

OCTOBER 1985

NOVEMBER 1985

DECEMBER 1985

JANUARY 1986

FEBRUARY 1986

MARCH 1986

APRIL 1986

MAY 1986

JUNE 1986

JULY 1986

AUGUST 1986

SEPTEMBER 1986

OCTOBER 1986

NOVEMBER 1986

DECEMBER 1986

JANUARY 1987

FEBRUARY 1987

MARCH 1987

APRIL 1987

MAY 1987

JUNE 1987

JULY 1987

AUGUST 1987

SEPTEMBER 1987

OCTOBER 1987

NOVEMBER 1987

DECEMBER 1987

JANUARY 1988

FEBRUARY 1988

MARCH 1988

APRIL 1988

MAY 1988

JUNE 1988

JULY 1988

AUGUST 1988

SEPTEMBER 1988

OCTOBER 1988

NOVEMBER 1988

DECEMBER 1988

JANUARY 1989

FEBRUARY 1989

MARCH 1989

APRIL 1989

MAY 1989

JUNE 1989

JULY 1989

AUGUST 1989

SEPTEMBER 1989

OCTOBER 1989

NOVEMBER 1989

DECEMBER 1989

JANUARY 1990

FEBRUARY 1990

MARCH 1990

APRIL 1990

MAY 1990

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## RESISTA CARPETS

## SALE NOW ON

Vetrol Placemat at £2.75

woven Berbers at

£2.50 yd. in many other

reductions. All excluding VAT

and delivery. 48 HOUR PLANNING AND

FITTING SERVICE

250 New King's Road,

London SW16 4NS

Tel: 01-873 2088

Markson's Carpets

Chapin Liszt

1. Hurdle of new and second-

hand pianos.

2. For SALE or HIRE with

OPTION TO PURCHASE.

3. Attractive payment schemes.

4. Unusually low prices.

Albany St. 01-435 9082

Antony Place 01-435 4317

OBTAINABLES - we obtain the

unobtainable. Tickets for sporting

events, theatre, etc. including

concerts, Covent Garden, etc.

01-435 9082

CURTAINS or loose covers for you.

Patterns brought to your home by

hand. Selection of fabrics, colours

and styles. Free estimate.

01-435 9082

1 YEAR OLD A.C. G. G. G. G. G.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

BEAUTIFUL white high quality

carpets, 12' x 12' ft. £1,000.

01-435 9082

## SPORT AND RECREATION

## TROUT

Fishing courses

Devon, Tel: 01-435 9082

NATHAN

WILSON &amp; CO.

BELSE PARK

TW3.

Bright, 1 bed, 11 ft flat fur-

nished to high standard. Gas

ch. 130 p.w.

22011 TOWN NW5.

Split level, 3 bedrooms, 3

baths, spacious recep.,

luxury kitchen, all amenities,

Gas ch. £100 p.w.

22012 TOWN NW5.

Magnificent garden flat, 4

beds, 2 baths, 2 recep.,

lavish, fitted kitchen, highly

recommended. £250 p.w.

794 1161

KENSINGTON. Knowledgeable

agent, St John's Wood and

Kensington. Tel: 01-435 9082

ROLANDS GARDENS SW7. Newly

devel. 2nd floor flat in a

beautiful garden. Tel: 01-435 9082

SUPERIOR FLATS AND HOUSES

available and required for

disposal. Tel: 01-435 9082

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.

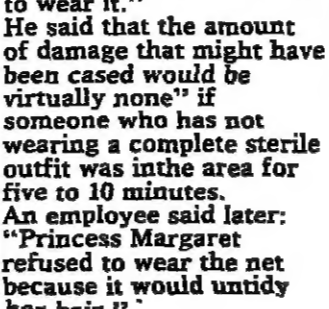
1100 TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN

NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5. 1100

TOWN NW5. 1100 TOWN NW5.



It is not known how many people are interned in the camp, one Church estimate talks simply of several dozen, but organizers of assistance for internees claim that conditions there are almost certainly the worst in the country.



The opening of the prison was delayed for two years by serious design faults in the heating and leaks in gas supply pipes to the kitchen.

With Labour leaders keeping up the pressure on the government not to take any action that might endanger the chances of a peaceful settlement, Mr Foot asked her to give the assurance that the whole country would wish to see, that there would be no deliberate escalation of military action which could injure the prospects of a

South Glamorgan County Council has voted, by 43 votes to 33, to ban fox hunting on its 70 farms. Of the council's 3,000 acres of farmland, 400 acres are used by the Glamorgan Hunt.

Chicago	11 50	Luxemb	11 45	Rijssen	11 35	Zürich	11 30
Cologne		Madrid	11 47	Nie de Jan			